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# African Violet

MAGAZINE

Volume 28 Number 4 September, 1975

PART I of II PARTS

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# Message From The President's Corner



Dear African Violet Friends:

As I write this, San Francisco has been having a heat wave! Yesterday it was 88 and today 93 (and that's really hot for San Francisco) but now the blessed fog is coming in through the Golden Gate and there is a lovely cool breeze. They say you are a true San Franciscan when you are happy to see the fog after a couple of days of warm weather.

What a wonderful convention we had in Boston this April. We had a fine attendance but I do wish more of you could have been there. Such excellent programs and workshops, interesting tours, and a BEAUTIFUL show. The days were filled with activity. And, of course, one of the happiest parts of the convention is meeting and visiting with AVSA friends from far and near. Everyone there is a friend – there are no strangers when all are enthusiastic violet growers. Many thanks to Florence Garrity, chairman of the Boston Convention, to John Cook, vice chairman, and to Yvonne Leighton, Show chairman, and to all their hard working committees, for giving us such a delightful time.

And while we think back on the happy memories of Boston, we also look forward to another fine convention next April in Atlanta – this will be the 30th AVSA convention and it is being held in the city where the Society was organized. The Dixie African Violet Society (with members in all of the southeastern states) besides being the host society, will be celebrating its 20th anniversary and the DAVS was organized in Atlanta also. Isn't that a happy coincidence? So, let's all start planning RIGHT NOW to attend this 30th AVSA annual convention. You may be sure that the DAVS is planning a convention for us that will be long remembered. Don't miss it!

It has been my good fortune to attend a number of fine shows put on by AVSA affiliate clubs this year. Of special interest, next, of course, to the beautiful plants and arrangements, has been the lovely and clever staging of the shows.

One of the nicest things about our violet hobby is that it is a hobby everyone can enjoy. Young and old (and how wonderful it is to have so many young people interested in growing violets); men and women (some of our top growers and show winners are men); rich and poor (this is one hobby where you can have much pleasure without it costing you very much); in city or in the country (violets will grow almost anywhere if they are given just a little tender, loving care). Surely it is a hobby that has something for everyone!

Best wishes to you all,

Edith

# BEGINNER'S COLUMN



Mrs. J. A. W. (Ann) Richardson  
RR #1, Box 70  
Tavares, FL 32778

## SHOW YOUR PLANTS!

You, as a beginner, will scoff at the idea of showing a plant in an African violet show. However, a show plant is nothing more than a perfectly or nearly perfectly grown plant. Since you are in the act of growing the plant it makes sense to make it as perfect as you can.

Not all plants will respond as you want them to but there are secrets that can greatly improve a plant as it grows to make it into something nice to look at. In purchasing, try to get a plant that is symmetrical or nearly so and one that has overlapping leaves, large under smaller to the heart which is tiny. Such a plant will not show the soil in between the petioles (stems), a thing that judges frown upon. A nearly symmetrical plant can sometimes be made so by cutting off those leaves that jut out oddly. Also, a leaf stem that is too close to another thus causing a space can be pushed where you want it by putting a toothpick on the side of the stem and gently pushing it in the wanted direction. Push the toothpick into the soil and do not move it for about a week, then give it another gentle push. A plant that is not in the center will not grow symmetrically. Judges will take off points for an off-center plant. The answer, of course, is to repot and place it in the center.

As I have said before, a neck is a definite "no-no". So are those small generally yellow leaves at the very bottom. Nothing is pretty that is dirty. Neither is a plant. Gently brush off soil or dust. Hold plant sidewise under tepid water and allow the water to fall on the outer leaves until they are clean. Plants breathe through their leaves and they just love a bath. (Usually the inner leaves are clean and it is better not to wet them). If, after you have washed the plant you keep it out of the sun it will not become spotted. Speaking of spots, watering with cold water will sometimes cause spots on the leaves as will a too low temperature.

Take care in handling the plant. Reaching into it with your fingers while removing dead blossoms or stubs left from removing a leaf, will sometimes cause the tip to bend and break. Use a long thin knife or nut pick or something similar.

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BOSTON, the birthplace of AMERICA! Also — the birthplace of many of our Presidents. The “Yankee Doodle Dandy,” who proved to be just that — in many segments of the history and the culture of our country. Many THANKS to all

chairmen and their committees, for the timing and planning of our 1975 AVSA convention in this great city with its traditions that are historically appropriate in this time of Bicentennial awareness.

Much appreciation also goes to the following members who worked long and late to make our library slide program, “VIOLETS BY LAND AND BY SEA,” possible. The photographers: Mr. Harvey Stone, Mr. Edgar Varick, Mr. Russell Marshall and Mr. Gus Becker. To the assistants: Mrs. Gus Becker, Mrs. Charles Hawley, Mrs. William Krogman, Mrs. James Merrell, Pauline Bartholomew, and Haradelle Downing. Because of a very fine show and the help of these people we have this new library slide program for you to use and enjoy.

From “New Introductions for 1975!” a program presented by Ethel and Duane Champion, at the Boston convention, come some pictures of what is new in the violet world. From these the library program, “LIFE, LIBERTY AND THE PURSUIT OF VIOLETS,” was made possible. THANKS to the Champions and to the hybridizers! These new programs are available from the AVSA Library Office, P. O. Box 1326, Knoxville, TN 37901.

The new yearbook packets are ready to help clubs plan a progressive, successful year. Check the June issue of the magazine for a complete listing of slide programs and other material available. Use this list and send for several of the programs to use during your club year.

Send all orders to AVSA Library, P. O. Box 1326, Knoxville, TN 37901, as instructed at the beginning of the library listing. Please follow the instructions so others will be able to use and enjoy the programs too.

Many affiliates are getting ready for Fall shows. Hope you all have new and interesting schedules, and that all your members participate. Most important — the best of growing and showing by all.

◆

Names of newly elected officers are to be sent to Helen Freie, Affiliate chairman — NOT TO THE EDITOR!

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# "The Word" Spread At Convention

Mrs. Lillian Johnson  
Mrs. Louise Maxwell  
Mrs. Datha Vollmer  
Denver, CO

Many thanks to our delegate from Hi Hopes Study Club, Miss Nell Sue Tyson, for taking our problem to the 1975 AVSA Convention. She was able to confirm the diagnosis made at Ft. Collins by Dr. L. E. Dickens, PhD, Plant Pathologist, at Colorado State University.

Miss Tyson carried with her several leaves showing "Edema" to the "Insect and Disease Problems Workshop." The moderator was Mrs. Lyle Courage, who brought the problem before the workshop, thus, we hope, helping many violet growers.

Because we live in Denver, Colorado, we constantly need to make more humidity for our plants. Many use wicking, misting, run humidifiers, use wet rocks or reservoirs to add moisture to our dry air.

We have wicked for 3 years, run automatic humidifiers and used reservoirs for our humidity. However, this spring we over-balanced the scale by adding foliar feeding. Within a few weeks we noticed small blisters on the under surface of the leaves. The tops of the leaves looked healthy and had a good color. Our bloom was abundant. These blisters seem to spread from leaf to leaf, and plant to plant, and after the wet blister stage the spots became brown and dry and then sometimes showed from the top. We were petrified we had an infestation and contacted Dr. Dickens.

He assured us our condition was environmental and called it "Edema" (also spelled Oedema). He said, "It is an over-saturation of moisture and occurs with a high level of soil moisture and a retarded evaporation of moisture (transpiration) from the leaves. Cool nighttime temperatures with higher relative humidity surrounding the foliage suppress transpiration. With abundant soil moisture, plant roots continue to absorb moisture. As a

result, the cells in the epidermis of the leaves become gorged with water."

We have temporarily taken our plants off the wick and are giving less water (letting our plants almost dry out), lowering humidity and increasing air flow and temperature and have discontinued foliar feeding. Our plants are responding and no new blisters have appeared. As the plants continue to grow, we will take off outer damaged leaves.

We hope this will help other distressed growers who will catch "Edema" in time and using the preventive control will be able to save their plants.  
Happy Growing!

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Tommie Lou	x	Mars

Please read my article on page 27. The above list is updated from the one in the June issue. Some crosses have been added while others have been removed due to sellouts.

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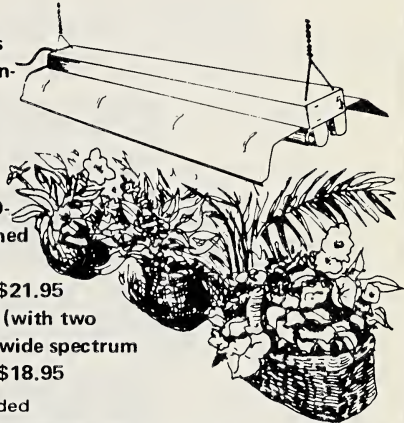
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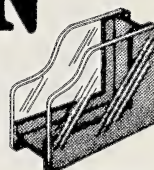
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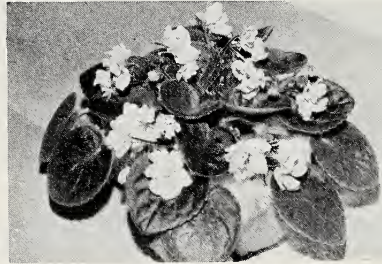
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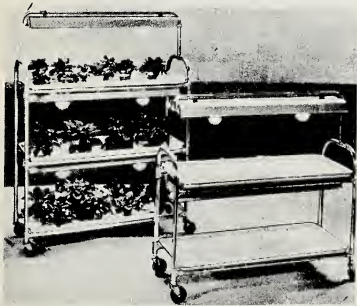


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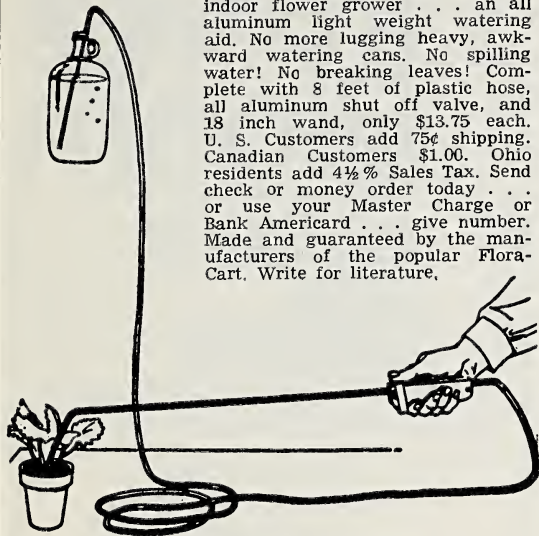
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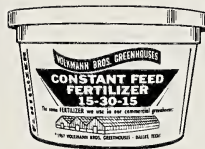
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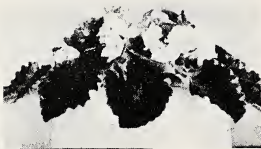
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**STATEMENT OF CASH  
RECEIPTS & DISBURSEMENTS**

**THE AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY  
OF AMERICA, INCORPORATED  
YEAR ENDED FEBRUARY 28, 1975**

**RECEIPTS:**

Memberships:	
New .....	\$ 29,757.86
Renewals .....	55,778.92
Other .....	4,319.00
	<hr/>
	89,855.78
Advertising .....	6,228.00
Back Issues .....	1,272.90
Research .....	2,535.00
Library rentals .....	951.50
Plant registrations .....	372.00
Variety lists .....	1,253.50
Binders .....	1,193.50
Booster fund .....	804.95
Interest (less \$420.00 transferred to life membership receipts) .....	7,471.52
Emblems .....	1,520.16
Conventions .....	2,999.74
Cumulative index .....	26.00
Entry tags .....	200.30
Semi-miniatures & miniatures list .....	311.50
Shows & judges .....	111.00
Miscellaneous income .....	4.00
	<hr/>
Total Receipts .....	\$117,111.35

**DISBURSEMENTS:**

Magazine .....	\$ 61,188.71
Services and payroll taxes .....	19,448.43
Office supplies and expenses .....	3,076.67
Office equipment .....	1,606.58
Variety lists .....	2,166.20
Postage .....	6,670.70
Conventions .....	709.45
Rent .....	1,855.04
Committees .....	2,972.25
Bond .....	292.00
Emblems .....	844.40
Professional services .....	700.00
Binders .....	744.14
Foreign exchange and bank charges .....	130.96
Officers' expenses .....	486.71
Research grant and expenses .....	3,203.45

\$106,095.69

**EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER**

**DISBURSEMENTS .....** \$ 11,015.66

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- LYNNA (Utz)**—huge dbl. pink, edges in fuchsia with white border-fancy
- MARGE (Maas)**—fringed carnation type dbl. Persian rose
- PEACH GLOW (GG)**—full dbl. peachy pink dark copper tips, plain foliage
- RED MARVEL (GG)**—huge full dbl. fuchsia red glistening foliage
- TIFFANY (UTZ)**—colossal size, pink with white edge, big show plant
- BASHFUL BETSY (EC)**—dbl. white pink center, ruffled variegated foliage
- LUCKY LILAC (EC)**—dbl. lavender with ruffled purple edge, variegated foliage
- NIGHT MAGIC (EC)**—ruffled medium blue white edge, rippled variegated foliage
- TANGIER (GG)**—fringed red dbl., ruffled variegated foliage, see page 53 AVSA 1/75
- MIDGET MISCHIEF (ED)**—profusion of deep pink stars, tiny variegated show plant
- FRISKY (LL)**—medium lite blue dbl., flat small modified girl foliage miniature

ORDER DIRECT FROM THIS AD—No fall supplement published this year. Please send your order in before October 15, 1975 to insure shipment before cold weather sets in. Include \$1.65 for shipping charges. Add an extra 85¢ if you wish special delivery and 25¢ per item for air mail, which is recommended for all shipments west of the Mississippi. NY State residents please include 4% sales tax plus your local tax.

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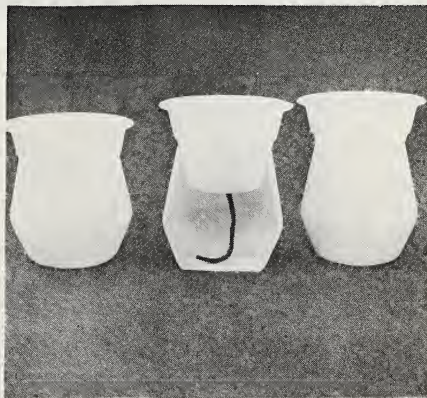
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# Calling all MEN



Dr. David Fuchshuber and 'Blue Lou'

## *Violets Lure Vet From Showing Dogs*

*By Pat Castillon*

Showing dogs and violets has many similarities believes Dr. David Fuchshuber of Fort Worth, TX, who has given up canines for colorful flowers.

The young veterinarian is the only male member of the Harmony AVS.

"I'd always been interested in plants," said Dr. Fuchshuber, a 1972 graduate of Texas A-J, "but I didn't have time for them until recently. All I did was show dogs."

A client gave him two or three African violets and he was hooked. Now his collection numbers 150 to 200.

His affection for the plants was tested recently when he moved from an apartment to his present home. He has built a number of plywood shelves and equipped them with lights.

"I started with one light. Then, every time I find a sale, I add a few. I have 12 now. This hobby gets hold of you.

"I can throw away poor plants now, though, because I've learned that every time you put a leaf down, you'll get eight plants or more.

"You don't picture yourself doing this, but it gets to you. There comes a point, and I'm just about there, when it takes discipline to cut down," he added.

"All the growers say the same thing. 'I've just got to cut back.' But then first thing you know, plants are in the bath, the dining room, and all over the house.

"I've got another problem, too. I like other plants, such as tropicals. Well, actually any plant that's healthy looks good to me. Working with plants is relaxing."

He admits he's won lots of ribbons and trophies on dogs. "I've shown them all over the United States, mainly poodles and Weimaraners. But always there were winners sitting at home. You say, boy, if I'd just entered so-and-so . . .

"And I imagine the violet shows are the same way. No matter which ones you take, you'll wish you had entered some others.

"I've learned a lot about violets from the other members; and I've read a lot. At first, you do what everybody tells you. Then you combine that information with what you discover and come up with 'I' do.

"Last year I was asking all the questions and now they're asking me! I like to keep it simple to make it fun, so I use Volkman's potting soil instead of mixing my own and I use Hyponex for everything instead of several different fertilizers."

Dr. Fuchshuber keeps in touch with almost enough dogs at his clinic, but he still keeps one as a pet, a big black standard poodle named Pilot.

Violets, for one thing, are much quieter than his collection of dogs, but they surely can't wag their tails to show their affection.



# COMING EVENTS

- SEPT. 27 The Wausau AVS to hold show and plant sale at the Crossroads Mall, Highways 29 and 51 West, Wausau, WI. 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- OCT. 10 - 12 Wisconsin Council of African Violet Clubs to hold annual show and sale in Mall of Brookfield Square Shopping Center. Theme, "Violets on Review". Open to public Oct. 10 - 11, 9:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.; Oct. 12, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Mrs. Harvey Genske, president; Mrs. Wm. Krogran, show chairman.
- OCT. 18 - 19 The AV Study Club of Houston to hold second annual show at Herman Park Garden Center, Houston, TX. Theme, "The Eagle Has Landed", Mrs. Bruce Blalock of Houston and Mrs. Robert Riquelmy of Bellaire co-chairmen. Non-members and the public are invited to enter plants and arrangements. Admission free.
- OCT. 18 - 19 Naugatonic AVS to hold annual fall show and plant sale at Boothe Memorial Park, Stratford, CT, Route 110. Admission free, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- OCT. 25-26 First Austin AVS of Austin, TX, to hold annual fall exhibit and sale at Austin Area Garden Center in Zilker Park, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- NOV. 1 - 2 Nutmeg State AVS of Connecticut to hold annual judged show, "Carnival of Violets" at New Haven Motor Inn, Exit 59 on Wilbur Cross Highway, New Haven, CT. George Holomakoff, show chairman.
- Nov. 14 - 15 First AVS of San Antonio to hold fall show and sale at the East Court, North Star Mall, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Theme, "Flurry of Violets". Lillian Gravis, show chairman.
- MAR. 13 - 14 1976 First Austin AVS of Austin, TX, to hold annual spring show and sale at Austin Area Garden Center in Zilker Park. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- MARCH 27-28 San Mateo County AVS to hold 1976 show with Judy Mitchell as Show Chairman.
- APRIL 9 - 10 AVS of Syracuse, NY, to hold 24th annual spring show on Palm Sunday weekend, the place to be announced later. Just remember the dates. For further information contact the show chairman, Mrs. Hugh Weld, 317 Wellesley Road, Syracuse, NY 13207.

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# REGISTRATION REPORT



Adele Tretter,  
4988 Schollmeyer  
St. Louis, MO 63109

The following registrations have been received during the period from February 28, 1975 through May 31, 1975.

DORIS DAY (2631) P 23 s-dc L 3/4/75  
HIGHLAND FLING (2632) P 23 s & s-df S 3/4/75  
IMOGENE (2633) PX 2 dc L 3/4/75  
SANDPIPER (2634) P-W 23 s-d S 3/4/75  
Irene Fredette, 972 Grassy Hill Rd., Orange, CT

JENNIFER STAR (2635) R-OXG-E 159 sc S 3/8/75  
SPARKLED STAR (2636) VWC 2 sc S 3/8/75  
Tinari GH, 2325 Valley Rd., Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

CLAMATIS (2637) V 2 sc S 3/11/75  
Sandy Weyland, 6 Drury Lane, Mastic Beach NY 11951

MYSTIC (2638) L-OX 37 d S 3/25/75  
Mrs. Alice Stramandole, 3 Devon Rd., Darien, CT 06820

BARBARA'S CHRISTIE (2639) OX 38 s-d L 3/25/75  
Mrs. Chas. W. Parks, 948 Denton Rd., Winter Park, FL 32789

BETTY NIPP (2640) D-PX 2389 dc S 4/11/75  
ERMINE ROBE (2641) W 28 dc S 4/11/75  
FAIRY'S DELIGHT (2642) O-PX 2369 dc S 4/11/75  
GAITY (2643) M-P 239 d S 4/11/75  
HAPPY FACE (2644) M-P 239 s-d S 4/11/75  
LEONE (2645) WR-E 359 dc S 4/11/75  
LORELAC (2646) OPC 259 d S 4/11/75  
MEDALLION (2647) M-PX 29 d S 4/11/75  
PINK ROUGE (2648) D-P 239 d S 4/11/75  
POWDER PUFF (2649) W 28 d S 4/11/75  
PRIMA DONNA (2650) MP 239 d S 4/11/75  
PRINCE ALBERT (2651) BW-E 238 s-dc S 4/11/75

ROSE FANTASY (2652) M-PX 29 dc S 4/11/75  
SNO GOOSE (2653) W 29 dc S 4/11/75  
VERN'S CAREFREE (2654) D-PX 3 s-d S 4/11/75  
VERN'S COURTSHIP (2655) D-PX 29 dc S 4/11/75  
VERN'S QUEEN (2656) M-PX 29 s-d S 4/11/75  
VERN'S PEACE (2657) L-P 236 dc S 4/11/75  
VERN'S TUXEDO (2658) BW-E 38 dc S 4/11/75  
VERN'S VALOR (2659) D-P 29 dc S 4/11/75  
V. L. Lorenzen, (Park Nursery) 1200 St. Clair, St. Paul, MN

CAPTAIN DAVE (2660) OX 239 d L 5/6/75  
Mrs. Marian Magee, 4244 Alabama St., Kenner, LA 70062

CRIMSUNNY (2661) R 589 d S 5/10/75  
GABBY (2662) RW-E 259 s L 5/10/75  
HUSKY (2663) D-B 39 s L 5/10/75  
MISS BUFFY (2664) W 3 d S 5/10/75  
Mrs. Chas. S. Hawley, 45 Forrest Dr., Painesville, OH 44077

STAR FANTASY (2665) OVC 37 s-dc S 5/17/75  
SUSIE KRAUS (2666) OPC 379 dc S 5/17/75  
TEXAS RAINBOW (2667) PVC 379 dc S 5/17/75  
Mrs. H. G. Cook, 1505 Corley, Beaumont, TX 77705

TOUCH OF GRACE (2668) O 5 sf S 5/20/75  
Mrs. John Buynak, 3871 West 133rd St., Cleveland, OH 44111

BECKY (2669) M-PX 35 s-df S 5/20/75  
FLAMINGO (2670) D-P 2 df S 5/20/75  
FEANKIE (2671) D-B 2 s-dc S 5/20/75  
MARGARET ROSE (2672) P 2 dc S 5/20/75  
MARGE (2673) D-P 2 df S 5/20/75  
MARY C (2674) M-P 38 s-dc S 5/20/75  
MARY D (2675) D-R 39 dc S 5/20/75  
MISTY (2676) M-B 3 d S 5/20/75  
PLUM PERFECT (2677) R-V 3 s-dc S 5/20/75  
ROSEBUD (2678) L-PX 3 df S 5/20/75  
RUFFLED RED (2679) D-R 25 s-df S 5/20/75

TINA (2680) R 2 d S 5/20/75  
VALERIE (2681) D-P 3 d S 5/20/75  
ZETA (2682) W&D-B 2 s-dc S 5/20/75

Union County Chapter AVSA, 413 Washington St., Westfield, NJ

BERGEN CHARMIN 'LOIS (2683) L-P 378 s S 5/22/75

BERGEN COUNTY GODMOTHER (2684) L-OX 57 d S 5/22/75

BERGEN HILDA SCHULZ (2685) D-P 379 s-d S 5/22/75

BERGEN LILA BAXTER (2686) L-PX 37 df S 5/22/75

BERGEN SHORTY KOHLER (2687) D-V 3578 s-d & s S 5/22/75

Muriel T. Kaiser, 33 Florence Ave., Cresskill, NJ 07626

AMAZING GRACE (2688) L-P 5 s-dfc L 5/22/75

GRAND ENTRANCE (2689) P 29 dfc S 5/22/75

ROYAL BLUE RUFFLES (2690) BW-E 4 dfc L 5/22/75

VIOLET GRACE (2691) M-B 29 s-dfc S 5/22/75

Rowell Yerman, 208 Bell Rd., Rome, NY 13440

CANOE (2692) D-B 28 d S 5/28/75

DEEP ROSE (2693) D-PX 2 d S 5/28/75

ERICA (2694) D-BV 3 s-d S 5/28/75

GAIL (2695) D-P 19 d S 5/28/75

MAAS'ES GORGEOUS (2696) WRC 2 d S 5/28/75

MAAS'ES RED BUTTONS (2697) D-R 2 s-dc S 5/28/75

THE KING (2698) D-BV 2 d S 5/28/75

Union County Chapter, AVSA, 314 Washington St., Westfield, NJ

DEBBIE SUE (2699) D-PX 29 df S 5/29/75

PAIGE (2700) R-PX 2 s-df S 5/29/75

Mrs. J. C. Harris, 4601 Ridgmont Rd., Fort Worth, TX 76117

HOLLY ROSE (1701) M-P 189 df S 5/31/75

SPICED BURGUNDY (2702) L-P 23 d S 5/31/75

Mrs. Paul W. Kiesling, 475 Madison St., Denver, CO 80206

#### RESERVATIONS

The following reservations have been received during the same period as above.

TEXAS STORM 3/9/75

Mrs. H. G. Cook

BLUE MARINER \* TWILIGHT ANGEL \* TOMMY'S SON \* SWINGIN PINK \* SHARPRA \* SAILOR'S DREAM \* RING TWICE \* PINK DYNAMO \* PEACH LACE \* MIDNIGHT MADNESS \* LAVENDER JEWEL \* JUNE \* JWELED STAR \* IRISH DUDE \* FRILLY LACE \* FESTIVE RED \* DIRTY FACE \* CANDY LOVE 3/12/75

Kolb's Greenhouse

STORM WARNING 5/31/75

Mrs. Paul W. Kiesling

MARGE WINTERS 4/12/75

Mrs. R. Riquelmy

PINK AGLOW \* FIRE CHIEF \* FREEDOM SONG \* NEW DAWN \* AUTUMN DREAM \* BEFORE DAWN \* MISTY SUNRISE 4/30/75

David Buttram

SEA BREEZE \* JASON \* ERIC 5/28/75

Glen Hudson

OUTTA SIGHT \* BIG MACK 5/28/75

Rowell Yerman

#### NAME RELEASES

SWANEE MELODIE \* SMALL FRY \* RED RAMBLER \* PINK CHEEKS \* TEN STREKE \* DRAGON FIRE

#### RENEWALS

BALLERINA 5/28/75 Vincent Ballirano

COLORADO CENTENNIAL \* ABOUT FACE 5/31/75

Mrs. Paul W. Kiesling

#### CORRECTIONS

CIRCUS BOY (2615) 11/27/74 Mrs. Haseltine RWC 2 s S

CLOWN BOY (1437) 3/23/64 Madison Gardens OX 38 d S-M

GRANGER'S PINKS A POPPIN 8/3/74 Granger G D-P 34 d S

LEILA (2469) 9/27/73 L. M. Egenites WGVC 359 d S

POLLY (2145) 11/30/70 Metropolitan AVS OX 2 s S

RUTH DODGE (2461) 7/21/73 Isla Montgomery V 247 d S

WESTDALE LAVENDER SPARKLE (1929) 4/4/69 Mrs. Irene Haseltine RX 2 s S

BABY DOE (2032) 11/28/69 Mrs. Paul W. Kiesling M-PG-E 5 df S

TIMBERLINE (1796) 11/27/67 Mrs. Paul W. Kiesling M-BW-E 238 s-d S

# So You Want To Plant An Italian Tear Drop...

Anne Tinari  
2325 Valley Road  
Huntingdon, Pa. 19006

To take credit for many new innovations we try here at the greenhouses is fun and flattering. But regarding terrariums, my specialty is the large open neck bottles and bowls that open in half where I can work with my hands to create a planting, a scene, a little bit of nature growing in a glass or plastic container that pleases me.

The very narrow neck bottles, photographed in this article, are a specialty of Frank Tinari, Jr. To him the challenge is greater and more exciting when the container opening is narrow. I have seen bottles with openings no larger than a fifty cent



Suitable plants selected and lifted into bottle.



Frank Tinari, Jr., selects right tools for terrarium planting.

piece and to see him gently drop the plants in, then arrange them in a fascinating fashion and create a natural woodsy scene when finished, is so amazing.

A young college student, Kathy Kraus, majoring in photography at the well known Moore Institute of Art in Philadelphia, caught him in the act and did the six photographs for this article.

The first step in any planting is the selection of the container. This one is an Italian hand blown bottle 26" high and a beautiful piece of glass even without any planting. However, Frank's artistic mind is already at work with a plan he is putting into motion. First, a layer of small pebbles to cover the bottom area is used to provide good drainage, then a layer of charcoal to help neutralize the soil and keep the moisture from stagnating. Both pebbles and charcoal are a factor in the stabilization of fibrous plant systems as they travel





Taller plants placed toward back of bottle.

down through the soil medium. The next important step is to add a well balanced pasteurized soil that tests at a pH of about 6.4. To this is added one-third perlite for a looser, lighter well drained mixture. The mixture should feel light, loamy and fine textured. Any soil that tends to turn into hard clay can ruin the whole planting. It should be lightly moistened to start.

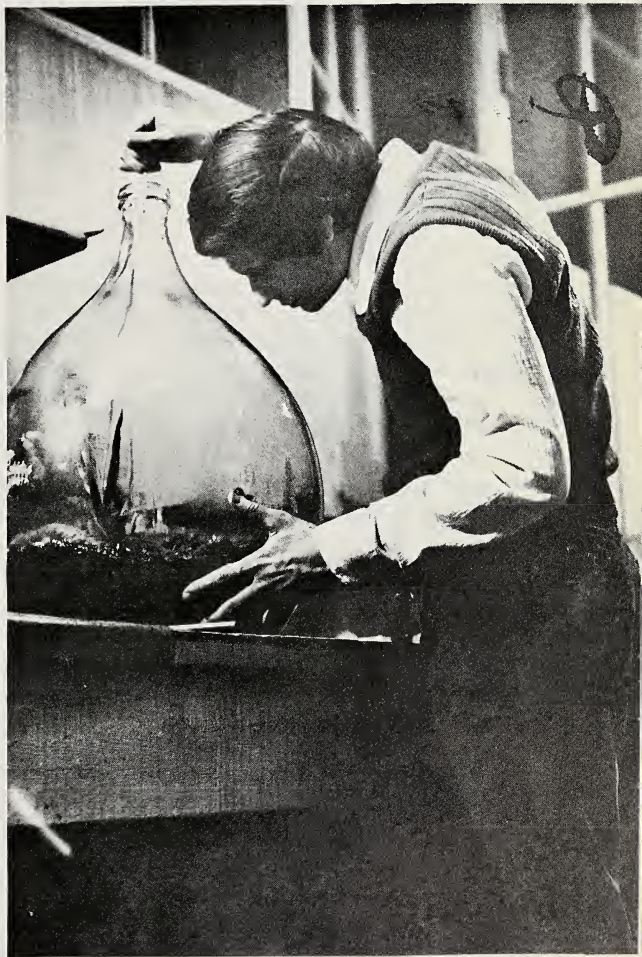
In this particular planting the soil is arranged in a sloping manner with a slight incline, elevated at the back of the jar to add dimension and interest.

Now for the actual planting. Machine made tools are available to lighten every part of the intricate job. However, Frank prefers to make his own; a tamper made with dowels; one with a spoon firmly attached, others with ends to spread and make proper size planting holes in the soil. A special tool he used is one that is often available in machine shops called a mechanic's helper. This little tool is excellent for removing or lifting plants into place.

Next, the selection of suitable plants. *Pilea* (also known as the aluminum plant) is good as are plants that grow fairly slow. The plant is lifted right into the bottle and set in the particular spot it will occupy and tamped firmly into place. Once again, plant after plant is carefully chosen and lowered into its particular spot in the bottle from which a well organized scene will emerge.

Taller plants and graceful ferns are placed towards the back of the bottle. Some of the plants

selected are Palm *Chamaedorea elegans*, *Peperomia*, dwarf snake plant (*sansevieris*), asparagus fern and the fascinating rabbit foot fern (*Davallia Pentaphylea*). Toward the front plants that grow flat and graceful or that run along the soil edges are more desirable. Pieces of *Selaginella* (*Uncinata*) sometimes called rainbow fern which is very fine in appearance can be used. It grows along the edges of the bottle and changes from a bright blue to bronze and brown in color. English baby tears, *fittonia* and *ficus* (*pumila nunema* also called creeping fig) tend to take root and grow reminding one of the lush beauty of plants that grow and mat together on the forest floor. Mosses too, such as *Lucopodium* (club moss), reindeer moss and dozens of different ones available help to add that natural growing look. Miniature African violets and *Sinningia* can be used to add color and interest. These should be placed toward the front where they can be observed and where they can receive sufficient light. *Episcias*, especially *Dianthaflora* which grows on woody stems, spreads gracefully and produces a lacy white delicate trumpet blossom one can use with good success. A



Careful consideration given to placing of plants.



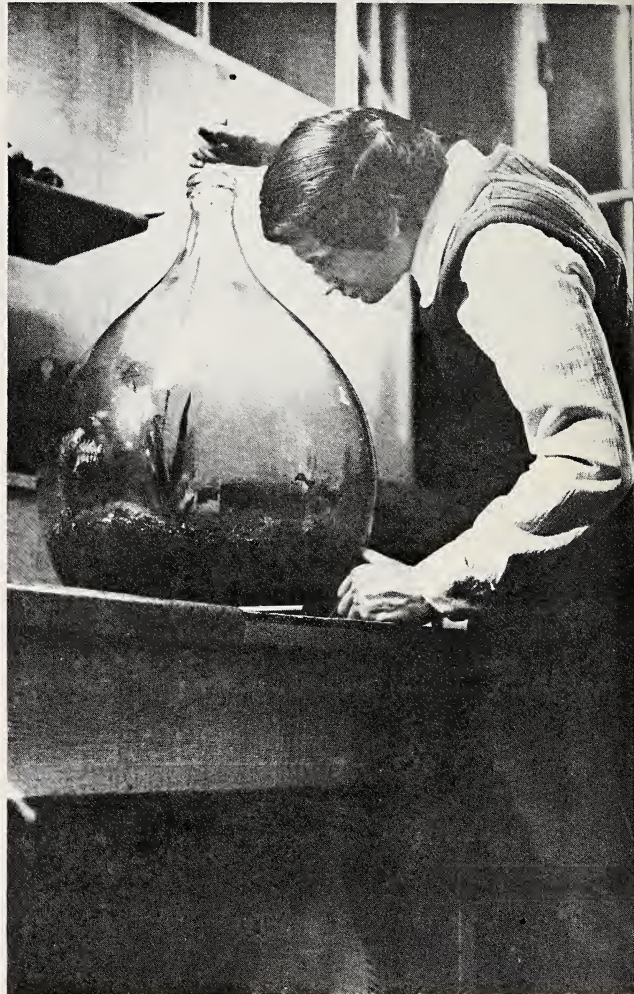
**Accessories added to create best effect.**

little bit of extra charcoal directly under these types of flowering plants will help fibrous roots establish themselves firmly.

Small figures, a bridge, spots with pebbles, interesting color and shaped rocks or stones, small pieces of driftwood can be added to the planting to create the effect you like best. When completed this arrangement will be watered by using a sprayer that will help to keep plants firmly in place and spray directed to wash down the sides of the bottle where particles of soil or perlite have gathered where they are not wanted.

Once the planting is finished and watered properly the success or failure of such a unique arrange-

ment really depends on where it is placed. Frank tells me this one has been placed below a large bright picture window in the living room which faces East overlooking our beautiful Pennypack creek where there is sufficient bright light but not burning sun which would injure and destroy tender plants with excess heat and moisture. This bottle planting has been flourishing in this spot now for more than six months without any added water. Only the condensation in the jar formed by the correct light exposure, the placing and re-



**Sprayer used to wash down soil or perlite on sides of bottle.**

## Buy Small Plant

When you plan to buy plants, remember that a small plant will usually adjust to your particular growing conditions more rapidly than a larger plant. As small plants cost less, you can get more varieties for the same amount of money. Choose a plant with a good center and the leaves well placed. Spray all plants with a good African violet spray before placing them with your plants and keep them separated from other plants for at least two or three weeks.

moving of the inverted glass top to control it keeps the bottle in good growing condition. One must learn to combine the proper soil balance, plants, moisture, light and air to achieve success.

Turning the bottle occasionally helps to keep all plant material growing evenly.

So there you are, a beautiful conversation piece done with perseverance and patience can reward you handsomely with true satisfaction and accomplishment.

# Sex and the African Violet

Ronn Nadeau, Ph.D  
2104 Butterfield  
Hazelwood, MO 63043

Are African violets male and female?

Ever since the June issue of the African Violet Magazine came out, I have been receiving queries about my hybrid African violet seeds.

A few people wrote that they did not know that African violets were either male or female. Well, actually they are not either male or female; rather, each plant has both male and female characteristics, in its flowers. The male "sperm" cells are contained in the yellow pollen sacs; the female egg cells are contained in the ovary part of the flower, which is what most of us call the seed pod. When one hybridizes two plants, one takes the male pollen from one plant and touches it to the tip of the female ovary (also called the stigma) of the other plant. The hundreds of pollen grains migrate to the ovary where each combines with an egg cell, and thereby hundreds of fertile seeds are formed. After maturing for a few months the seeds can be harvested and planted.

What confuses some people is that hybridizers identify their seeds as coming from male and female parents. What we mean by this can be illustrated by considering one particular cross, let's say 'Blue Sprite' X 'Gigi.' (Incidentally, read "X" as "by", so that 'Blue Sprite' X 'Gigi' is the same as saying " 'Blue Sprite' was pollinated by 'Gigi' "). Thus 'Blue Sprite', in this example, is the female recipient of male pollen from 'Gigi.' The hybridization could also be done the other way, in other words, 'Gigi' x 'Blue Sprite', and in such a case the male would be 'Blue Sprite' and the female 'Gigi.' Because different results are often obtained depending on which of the plants is used as the male and which as the female, it is important to so designate. So you see, African violets are bi-sexual, and their names are due only to their beauty, not their gender.

One writer asked me if I could explain in simple terms why and how new varieties are produced by hybridizing. The basic, simplified, answer to this question is as follows: Each variety is what it is and grows as it does because of pieces of chemical code which are present throughout the plants. Each variety has its own unique combination of pieces of code (technically called genes) and these pieces determine flower color, size, and form, leaf shape and form, plant size, and all other of the variety's characteristics. Now try to imagine what would happen if you could mix the pieces of code from one variety with the pieces of code from another variety. This is what happens in hybridizing!

Each microscopic pollen grain contains an entire code set from its plant and each egg cell from the other plant has its own code set. When a pollen grain and egg combine, a mixing of the code pieces occurs and the resulting seeds have new codes, which when planted will yield new varieties. Several new varieties can result from a single cross.

Several people have inquired whether it is legal to produce plants from seed which came from a patented variety, as for example, a Rhapsody variety. The answer is that plant patents only restrict a patented variety's production from leaf cuttings or suckers. If you use a Rhapsody as one of the parents in a cross, all of the offspring will be new varieties, and you can name them, register them, sell them, or even patent them yourself if you wish.

Finally, a few words about grafting. Speaking as a biochemist, I can assure you that grafting is not a way to produce new varieties. The main reason is that grafting does not and cannot cause a mixing and combining of the genetic code pieces.

Growing from seed can be exciting and creative because of the infinite number of new varieties that can arise from various combinations of parents. In future articles I will continue to try to make hybridizing and growing from seed more understandable to the average home grower.

(ED. NOTE: This article was written by Ronn Nadeau to answer questions concerning his hybrid African violet seeds ad appearing in the June magazine. Another of his ads is in this issue.)

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## What's In A Name?

Andy & Carol Anderson  
9515 Flower Street  
Bellflower, CA. 90706

We were discussing the name of a new variety now under test: A deep red with curly red-backed foliage.

'Brilliant Red', 'Red Superior' and other names were suggested and met with little enthusiasm, especially from Mark.

He proposed 'Fire Ball'. "Let's make it a short name," he said.

You wonder why? Mark handletters many of our markers, and when he makes 200 or more of 'Pocono Mountain' or 'Blizzard Supreme Sport', he gets writer's cramp.

# Seeds Tiny But Tough - - And Love Wicking

Wanda McPeters  
1802 Chama  
Hobbs, N. M. 88240

The first time I opened a packet of African violet seeds, I could not believe that any thing that small could ever grow into a plant. The size of the seed alone was enough to scare me to death! But I was determined to try and here is my method that has resulted in hundreds of healthy seedlings:

Any type of container will do — use whatever you have in your kitchen. I use an aluminum cake pan — no drainage — the sheet type. I have also used bread pans, pyrex covered dishes and even a fish aquarium.

I put a little charcoal in the bottom of the pan first . . . I think this is important. It keeps the mixture sweet. I then add no more than 1 to 1½ inches of vermiculite and moisten thoroughly with my fertilized solution.

I open my seeds carefully on paper, and here is where you might panic! Don't!! They are stronger than they look. The only thing is be careful that you are not in a draft. I do not sow as has been suggested for the simple reason they come up so thick that they will need to be thinned out and I hate to lose any. I press my ring finger gently on each seed — it will stick — and I drop it into the vermiculite. This way I sow more evenly. Do not try to cover seed. They are entirely too small.

I cover the pan with plastic and put immediately under lights in a warm area.

Why I have never gotten over the urge to grow seed except in the winter time is beyond me. Because of the drop in temperature at night, I move my pan by the heater and put back under lights the next morning.

In no more than two weeks, my pan will be solid with seedlings.

After four leaves have developed, I put into 2 - 2½ - inch pots, wicked with nylon fishing cord in fertilized solution. I put them back immediately under lights and they grow by leaps and bounds. In fact, I have had blooming plants from seed faster than some leaves.

I would not suggest this to the novice on growing seed, but I have thinned out seedlings that were too thick and too small to pot, and moved them over to another area in the pan and they still grew. This is merely to let you know they are tougher than they look!

As an experiment, I put some wicked by the side of some unwicked, under lights. The ones wicked doubled in growth.

After plants start blooming, I do not hesitate to discard, if they are not outstanding, and most of them will not be. If you only get two or three truly beautiful outstanding plants, it has been

worth it.

Lyndon Lyon, Buell's, Parks, Stokes and others sell seed and you will receive them almost by return mail.

Don't be afraid to try growing from seed. The only problem will be to discard ones that do not perform well.

They are tiny but tough and love wicking!

## Don't Use Miticide Over Long Period

Have you ever thought of mites becoming resistant to continued use of the same miticide?

Mites are a serious African violet pest. They are difficult to eliminate but when they become resistant to a miticide, the problem becomes worse.

Control of mites is impossible if coverage is incomplete or if a grower uses a miticide to which a strain of mites has become resistant.

Resistance occurs when the same miticide or one belonging to the same class of miticides is used over a long period. Even with thorough coverage, some mites may escape killing, become immune to ordinary doses of the miticide and survive to breed a strain of resistant mites.

More miticides are listed among the organic phosphates than any other class, and changing from one miticide to another in the same class is not the answer to mite control. The grower must change to an entirely different class of miticides to kill mites resistant to the miticides he is using.

Here is a list of the miticide classes:

### CLASS I:

(Organophosphates) Cygon, Dibron, Diazanon, Di-Syston, Ethion, Malathion, parathion, Meta-Systox, sulfotepp, Systox TEPP, Thimet, Trithion, Schradan and Vapona.

### CLASS II:

(Chlorinated hydrocarbons) Dimite, Chlorobenzilate and Kelthane.

### CLASS III:

(Sulfones) Genite, Ovex, Sulfenone and Tedion.

### CLASS IV:

(Sulfites) Aramite and Omite.

### CLASS V:

(Cyclic carbonate) Morestan.

### CLASS VI:

Pentac.



**LAVENDER DELIGHT**  
(Granger Gardens)  
Best in Show. Shown by  
Barbara Cook of Falmouth, MA

**BEAUTIES ON DISPLAY  
AT BOSTON CONVENTION**

(Photos by Burton)

**'MARY C'**  
Shown by Ray Dooley  
Staten Island, NY



# Lot Of Hard Work But Violets Are Worth It



Mrs. Mills in Her Violet Room

By Diane Conklin

A small sign in front of her house, "African Violets for Sale", doesn't prepare the visitor for the enthusiasm Mrs. Henry C. Mills pours out to people who stop at her home in Tallahassee, Fla., to buy a plant or two or maybe just to inquire about a plant.

Many people stop at the white frame house with its simple sign, not to buy but "just for a little information." And they get a discourse on the do's and don'ts of violet vernacular, a subculture which has infiltrated, almost furtively and unnoticed, the hearts and minds of millions of men and women across the country.

Seventeen years ago Mrs. Mills didn't know what an African violet looked like. Now she has more than a thousand.

"With one leaf, you can get 100 plants," she said. "It's just like raising rabbits."

Her "babies", which consume half her waking hours, live in a 25 x 16 foot room.

"They're happy at about 70 per cent humidity," she advises, walking briskly between rows of potted plants lovingly placed under Gro-Lux pink neon lights. "The lights stay on 14 hours a day and longer when I put on a show," she said.

The room expresses her love for the delicate and pampered plants in small but significant ways. Remains of a fertilizer, violet soil, egg shell, charcoal mix in Tom's Toasted Peanut jars line a window sill.

A minute tubular glass, used to closely inspect the leaves and stalks of the pink, purple, and other



colored plants sits handily near the sink.

Mrs. Mills pulls it out of its case and holds the glass a hair's breadth away from a leaf. "Now you look there," she says, proudly pointing to the plant, "there aren't any bugs on my plants."

How did she get started with violets?

Her mother received a violet at her sickbed and the plant so impressed Mrs. Mills that she ran out and bought a dozen for herself.

"I put them in too big a pot, what everyone does. Oh, they didn't do so hot."

But it was love at first sight.

Ribbons of all kinds and sizes are carefully posted around the walls near the ceiling of the cement-floored flower room. The investment for the room alone, not counting the years of spending to improve her violet stock, runs well over \$5,000.

"That's the highest award around," said the lifetime judge and African violet teacher gesturing toward a large satin strand set apart from the myriad of blue, yellow, green and red ribbons. "And I got a box full of other ribbons yonder that I haven't even brought out."

Though it is a lot of hard work, just the sight of all those violets warms Mrs. Mills heart. Even her gas station-operator husband's admonition "don't you put none of them violets in the bedroom," doesn't tarnish the glow.

"Oh, I don't have half the plants I used to have," she declared. "I used to have glasses sitting all the way around," and her arm encompasses the house.

Mrs. Mills organized a Tallahassee club 11 years

ago. The Tallahassee African Violet Society has grown in those years from a membership of 15 to more than 25 including associate members.

"The people in this group," said new member Jo England, mother of three and a newcomer to town, "are very dedicated. It's not like some zinnias in the yard you throw water on."

Mrs. England who has raised violets since 1968, said the flowers "get to be like children."

"We don't really have a lot of women's libbers in this group."

The society includes a retired school teacher, two retired state workers, Elizabeth Shannon, owner of the Red Barn, 83-year-old Mrs. A. W. Church, Mrs. Steven Andris of Monticello whose husband is president of the Jefferson County Kennel Club and caterer Mrs. Waldo McGuffey.

The youngest member is 27, the oldest is Mrs. Church. The average is somewhere in the 40s.

"You think of them as a lot of little old ladies," said Mrs. England. "Well, a lot of them are. I'm one of the younger ones in the group. I'm in my late 30s."

But she thinks those older members have a lot of spunk. "We've had some trouble with some of them falling and breaking their hips, but then they get a walker and get right up to tend their violets."

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## Do Your Violets Grow Slower in the Winter?

Mrs. W. J. (Adeline) Krogman  
1325 Parkway Drive  
Brookfield, WI 53005

If you are a basement grower and have heeded the command to conserve energy and set your thermostat lower during the winter, you may find that plants are not growing as fast as usual. This is especially true if violets are grown under lights in the basement which is cooler than usual.

There are several ways to remedy this condition.

Use a small supplemental heating unit in which you burn waste paper, rubbish, wood or gas, unless restricted in your area.

Drape plastic, sheets, blankets or draperies around your violet tables. This is quite helpful when a heating duct is in the area.

Close or partially close some of the heating ducts in your living quarters, thus forcing more heat into the basement.

Use water that is quite a bit warmer than room temperature. This will help warm the soil and roots causing violets to grow faster and to form buds more rapidly.

## Buys Only Named Violets

Linda Rippeon  
5014 Berwyn Road  
College Park, MD 20740

Since receiving my first nameless violet in 1973, I have been careful to buy nothing unless it bore a name. Today I have a collection of some 35 plants, which grace practically every room in my home.

There are several plants — 'Nancy Reagan', 'Tommie Lou', 'Count Down' and 'R. Monique' — that I am having a very difficult time trying to get to bloom. I have not given up on them yet.

One of my special favorites is 'Pink Voyageur'. This is a very large plant where pink blossoms last a long time. 'R. Patricia' is my only plant where leaves will lay flat naturally. It's a small plant that seems to bloom continuously.

Sometimes I really cannot believe 'Hanka Chief.' My plant is still very small but the large blue blossoms last almost indefinitely. My 'Snow Drop' has finally burst into bloom for the first time with about 12 lovely white blossoms. Another real favorite is 'R. Gloria'. This one rates in my top three favorites. The huge pink blossoms stand high above the foliage for months.

One of my newest African violets is 'Festival.' The slightly variegated quilted foliage is very pretty. The first blossom opened a few days ago and was I surprised to see a breathtaking orchid and white bloom!

I have four trailing violets, but I'm having difficulty with them. One entire plant hangs over the side of the pot, making it topple. There have been only three blossoms on all four plants.

I have grown several plants from leaves of which I'm very proud. I have equal success rooting leaves in water and in a mixture of peat moss and perlite. So far my plants have not been bothered by any pests.

To go along with my violet collection, I have acquired a large selection of books on African violets. I buy every book available so I can learn as much as possible about them.

I would enjoy hearing from other African violet growers.

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### AWARDS LISTED FOR NAMED VARIETIES

Awards for the best "Edith V. Peterson", by Victor Constantinov and "Grace Foote", by Grace Foote, will be given at the Atlanta 1976 Convention.



**WINTER'S DREAM** - Second best introduction by Lyndon Lyon at Boston Convention (above)      (Right) **WILD COUNTRY** by Lyndon Lyon. Third best introduction





# AV Growers Credited With Being First To Use Fluorescent Lamps

Dr. Henry M. Cathey, chief, Ornamentals Laboratory, Plant Genetics and Germplasm Institute, USDA Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, MD, is in the process of learning more about growth chambers, green lighting, and luminaires for plant display lighting. Tests are being made with three African violet cultivars: 'Purple Choice', 'Terrific' and 'Pink Renegade.'

In a test with 30 species of plants, fluorescent lamps (cool white) with high pressure sodium and LPS were compared as a source of growing plants under artificial conditions. The program was undertaken due to energy shortages and costs involved, it was learned from Frank Tinari, chairman of the AVSA Research Committee. Funds to carry on this program and similar others are provided by the Boyce Edens Research Fund, to which individuals and AVSA Affiliates are contributors.

Dr. Cathey and L. E. Campbell are authors of an article, "Lamps and Lighting — a Horticultural View", appearing in "Lighting Design and Application", in which it was said: "We are indebted to the African violet grower for the basic information on growing plants in our homes away from windows".

It was pointed out that African violet growers "found more than 30 years ago that the light from fluorescent lamps warm the leaves and creates an essentially red system. With the lamps that were available, they found it was easy to obtain 800-1000 footcandles (8,000-10,000 lux) of light by placing the plants 6 to 8 inches from the lights. The luminaires and plants could be put almost anywhere in the home.

"The optimum daylength for growing an African violet when the plants were placed 6 to 8 inches from an ordinary cool-white fluorescent lamp was 12 to 14 hours. Once this duration and light-intensity had been established, it opened up a whole new world of culture. Previously, African violets flowered well in spring and fall, when they were placed in a lightly shaded area. They did not flower well during the winter or summer months. African violets grown on 12 to 14 hour days develop a new leaf and flower spray every 5 to 7 days. With controlled growth, African violets flower the year round. Plants that are grown on daylengths less than 12 hours produce a new leaf every 7 to 14 days, but the flowers do not develop. The plants accumulate potential flower stalks. Plants grown on 10 or 11 hour days and then shifted to a 12 or 14 hour day will be covered with many flowers 6 to 8 weeks later. African violets grown on daylengths longer than 12 or 14

hours form leaves, but the flower stalks often do not emerge from the leaves. Plants grown in 16 to 24 hours days develop leaves that are a pale green color with burned areas."

Here are some other excerpts from the article:

"The African violet grower was also the first to benefit from the use of fluorescent lamps having special phosphors for plant growth. The lamps were predominantly pink or lavender in color and enhanced the appearance of lavender, pink, red, blue and purple flowers and darkened the appearance of green leaves. Many people preferred this theatrical coloring over that of plants lighted with cool-white fluorescent lamps. Many indoor gardeners now prefer to mix equal numbers of cool-white lamps with their special growth fluorescent lamps.

"The African violet grower was the first to learn that putting plants under fluorescent light during the first 100 hours of lamp use often caused severe leaf injury. They also learned to plan a replacement time for the lamps on a regular schedule. They also looked for ways of making these indoor gardens attractive by building stands or putting them in bookcases and closets. The entire home became a garden. The literature on growing violets is filled with reports on the preferences of growers for a special lamp. Most of these lamps cost three to 10 times as much as did cool-white fluorescent lamps. Under most circumstances, a little more light and controlled temperature, humidity, and airflow were more important than the installation of a special growth type of lamp.

"Based on the experiences of the African violet grower, gardeners have found that many kinds of foliage plants may be grown indoors."

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## TO ERR IS HUMAN . . .

To err is human — and we'd like you to know we're human.

We've been listing Constance Hansen, an Honorary Life Member, as living at 8 Sandy Beach in Vallejo, CA. Well, she doesn't. Her address is 1931 N. 33rd Street, Lincoln City, OR 97367.

Sorry, Constance.

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Names of newly elected officers are to be sent to Helen Freie, Affiliate chairman — NOT TO THE EDITOR!

# Value Of Workshops

Faye Sollid, President  
Upper Pinellas AVS  
Clearwater, FL

Have you ever considered the value of workshops to a successful show?

We believe that the large number of novice entries which were awarded blue ribbons and the top honors scored by newer members in a number of other divisions at our spring show are the result of workshops held during the past year, including three summer workshops.

More experienced members of our club headed the workshops on growing African violets and grooming them for a show.

Two workshops were conducted by non-members to coach in arrangements for artistic classes.

A terrarium session was conducted by a club member.

The nine judges who judged the show expressed the belief that the quality of the plants exhibited this year was superior to that of last year . . . and we feel that this was the result of the hard work and long hours put into training club members and others in the workshop sessions.

I am grateful that there are enough of the really good old growers left in the club to train our new members.

To appreciate the significance of the outstanding performance of the club would require background knowledge of the handicaps under which this club has operated throughout the year with first one and then another dropping out due to serious illness to themselves or to someone in their family.

Our show chairman carried on gallantly in spite of the stress of moving from a house to an apartment and in spite of illness. Some of those in key jobs for the show were forced to cancel because of illness making it necessary for her to do double duty.

During the year I wondered how one club could have so many misfortunes among its members as we have had. But in spite of all our difficulties, our 1975 show was a great success.

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## NEED SOIL MIXES

Do you mix your own soil? Then please let us use your recipe. Right now we are compiling as many soil mixes as we can to print them in the African Violet Magazine. So please send the list of your ingredients and the measurements to Grace Foote, Editor, African Violet Magazine, 211 Allien Place, Port Arthur, TX 77640.

# Happy Winners At Dixie Meet

Mrs. G. W. Stikelether Sr., took 15 awards and Mrs. Henry W. Mills of Tallahassee, FL, won 14 top awards at the Dixie AVS convention and show held in Tallahassee. Coming in third was Chris Huebscher of Panama City, FL, and fourth was Mrs. Ralph Reed of Camden, AR.

Mrs. Stikelether's winning violets were: 'R. Gigi', 'Englert Red', 'Anna', 'Strawberry Red', 'Tidy', 'Bloom Burst', 'Miriam Steel', 'Lullaby', 'Double Take', 'R. Violetta', 'Santa Maria'. She also won DAVS Rosette and Best in "Corsages", Mrs. Mills won the AVSA Best Collection, 'Chanticleer', 'Richter Alabaster', 'Pink Crest', and DAVS Collection, 'Annie Mae', 'Tommie Lou', 'Lavender Garland'. Mrs. Mills also won an award for most new members, grand sweepstakes, first sweepstakes in horticulture and second sweepstakes in design. Her other winning violets were 'Crystal Orchid Supreme' and 'Grand Canyon'.

Mrs. Huebscher's winning violets were 'Happy Harold' and 'Dixie Moonbeam.' Her terrariums won her two awards in addition to which her theme of the show, "Dixie Violets in the Florida Capital" and her artistic planting, "Songs of the South" received prizes and she won first sweepstakes in design.

'Annie Mae', 'Pretty Pink' and 'Puddin', all three hybridized by House of Violets, operated by the Ralph Reeds of Camden, AR, captured the DAVS Purple Rosette for Mrs. Reed. Her other winning violets were 'May Morn', 'Blue Halo', and 'Grapette'.

Mrs. J. A.W. Richardson of Tavares, FL, won first sweepstakes in the gesneriad division and her 'S. Cindy' received tri-color in gesneriads.

Other winners were Mrs. H. M. Shear of Beaumont, TX, Mrs. Alvin Whitefield of Dallas, TX, Mrs. C. R. Ballard of Montgomery, AL, Mrs. Martha Walker of Jacksonville, AR, Ellen McCulloch and Mrs. Lucille J. Wasson of Panama City, FL, Mrs. Clyde Benninghoff of Kissimmee, FL, and Mr. and Mrs. James Helms, Mrs. Carl H. Ramm, Mrs. Bessie Harvey, Mrs. Steve Andris, Mrs. Bessie Harvey, Mrs. William J. England, Mrs. R. W. McGuffey, and Debby Harbin, all of Tallahassee.

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Need to find out about previous magazine articles on soils, potting, pests, diseases, etc., then look in your Cumulative Index, compiled by Joan Van Zele, and available at AVSA Office, P. O. Box 1326, Knoxville, Tenn., 37901.

# Outstanding Plants Shown at the

Christi Love

Best New Introduction by Lyndon Lyon



(Photo by Burton)

# 1975 AVSA Convention in Boston

## Gypsy Pink

A 1975 Introduction by Tinari Greenhouses



(Photo by Burton)



# Musings from the "Mini-Mam"

Mrs. Sidney (Ellie) Bogin  
Chr. Miniature and Semi-miniature Class  
39 Boyd Street  
Long Beach, N. Y. 11561

Spring Show Winners:  
 AVC of Trenton  
 AVSA Collection Award, (purple rosette), 'Junior Miss', 'Azure Trinket', 'Icicle Trinket', Best Mini, 'Snow Bells', Best Semi, 'Wild Lemon', Harold Black.  
 AVSA at Boston  
 Best Mini, 'Midget Bon Bon', Martin Miller; 2nd Best Mini, 'Cradle Song', Ellie Bogin; Best Semi, 'Lavender Elfin Girl', Harriet Churchill; 2nd Best Semi, 'Royal Trinket', Jean Johnson.  
 AVS of Greater New York  
 Best Mini, 'Tint Rose', Margaret Lane; Best Semi, 'Ale', Floyd Bingham.  
 AVS of Syracuse  
 Best Mini, 'Midget Midnight', Ethel Champion.  
 Columbus AVS  
 Best Mini, 'Midget Bon Bon', Mrs. James Phillips; Best Semi, 'Blue Sprites', Richard Lane.  
 New York City AVS  
 Best Mini, 'Knee High', Judith Ann Fox; Best Semi, 'Fancy Pants', Ray Dooley.  
 Long Island AVS  
 New York State Collection, 'Little Sweetheart', 'Little Eva', 'Double Take', Suzette Smith; Best Mini, 'Little Red', Gloria Hall; Best Semi, 'Dora Baker', Bert Romeril.  
 Metropolitan AVC of St. Louis  
 Princess, 'Dancing Doll', Mrs. Knute Swennes; 1st Maid, 'Krista', Mrs. Robert Laske; 2nd Maid, 'Snoopy', Mrs. J. W. Reitz; Wee Princess, 'Midget Valentine', 1st Maid, 'High Stepper', 2nd Maid, 'Window Blue', Mrs. J. W. Reitz; Miniature Collection Award, 'Bagdad', 'Tippy Pink', 'Baby Dear', Mrs. J. E. Holliday.  
 North Shore, AVS  
 Best Mini, 'Bright Eyes', Judy Anderson; Best Semi, 'Royal Trinket', Tina Bigart.  
 TAVS of Staten Island  
 New York State Collection of Semis, 'Wild Lemon', 'Fancy Pants', 'Little Chrissy', Best Mini, 'Little Eva', Best Semi, 'Fancy Pants', Ray Dooley.  
 Our minis and semis are really coming up in the world. In the above list you can see that they have taken an AVSA Collection Award of a purple rosette.  
 If you are not getting the bloom you want,

perhaps, among other things, you are keeping your minis in too small a pot. Tiny thumb pots, egg shells etc. are a definite hindrance to good bloom. They just bonzai the plants. To get good bloom, you must have more than just a few leaves and to have sturdy, bloom producing leaves, you must have a good root system. That is just not possible in a very tiny pot.

Some of the teeny-weenies, like 'Edith's Toy' can use a 2¼" pot but for maximum bloom on the others, nothing smaller than 2½" pot should be used. Anything larger, might encourage more growth in the plant size.

The updated 1975 edition of the "Miniature and Semiminiature Culture and Variety List" is available from me at \$2.00. Please make any check or money order out to AVSA.

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## IN MEMORIAM

Mrs. Howard Yates

The Steuben County African Violet Society in Angola, Indiana, was recently saddened by the death of Mrs. Howard (Iola) Yates, who passed away on April 6, 1975. Mrs. Yates was a longtime member of the chapter and was serving as president at the time she became ill. She was a true lover of all flowers and the outdoors, and a faithful officer of the club.

Dana F. Emery

Dana F. Emery, long time AVSA member and former treasurer of the Patriots AVS, died of a heart attack enroute to the hospital in Belmont, Mass. His sudden death came as a shock to his community and the Payson Park neighborhood where he was serving as principal of the Payson Park school.

Elfriede C. Tiede, president of Patriots AVS, said: "Mr. Dana was one of those rare people who touches your life and makes it worth living. The minister in his tribute to Dana spoke about a theoretical commemorative medal which might be designed. His words: 'Around the edge we would etch African violets. How Dana loved his violets!'"

# Judges - - Judges - - Well, We Got 'Em!

By *Cordelia Rienhardt*  
Syracuse, N. Y.

Members of the AVS of Syracuse think maybe they have the largest number of certified AV judges of any Affiliate Society. We have 20 judges qualified as of Nov. 2, 1974, seven of which are lifetime judges and two teachers.

If there are other Affiliates with this many judges, let's hear from you. Now play fair. This means one single AV society, not a council, group of clubs or other combinations.

Going right along with the unemployment in the country today, we have unemployed judges. Give the new judges a chance, working in one new with each team of experienced judges. New judges who qualified are Mrs. Janet Lottermoser, Mrs. Leon Gonneau, Mrs. Grace Darrah, Robert Casey, Fred Ticknor, Mrs. Elihu Cohen, Mrs. Bruce Wightman, John Carpenter, Mrs. Alinor Ticknor, Mrs. Doris Weld. Other judges who were renewing their certificates are Mrs. William Meek, James Smith and Barr Ticknor. I took the test just for fun and to keep my hand in. Lizeta T. Hamilton was our instructor and no teacher ever worked harder to get them all through.

While I was knee deep in study with our local group was just the right time for me to be invited to teach a school in Denver, Colorado. I was indeed flattered to be asked to teach a school so far away and the fact that we have never been in that part of the country was a drawing card. I talked it over with Happy Harold and he thought he was just about ready for a trip, too.

The classes were held at the Botanic Gardens in Denver which was a beautiful place for it. Harold Young, chairman of the school, had done a fine job in setting it all up. This was a council of several AV clubs with members coming from near and far. There were as many as 50 at some of the sessions. I particularly liked the way the plans had been arranged, because it gave me so much more time to cover all the material. The school opened with a reception and get acquainted at 6:30 Friday evening, followed by two hours of beginning instruction. Saturday was an all day affair, with coffee and lunch breaks. Practice judging on arrangements was done in the afternoon. Sunday at 9:00 a.m. was a time for questions and answers, lunch at 12:30 and the test starting at 1:30. Many were experienced judges renewing and some were brand new. Anyhow 23 took the test.

I think maybe we have been missing the boat to try to have a judging school in one day. It was so

much better and easier for the teacher, too, to have more time. I realize that many times this is not possible and only one day can be spared, but then students should get together and study ahead.

Anyhow we had a wonderful trip and a grand time in Denver and now will have many friends to look up when the AVSA convention meets there in '79.

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## TEXANS GET JUDGES' CERTIFICATES

Charles Day of San Antonio was instructor of the judging school co-sponsored by the First AVS of Dallas and the First Arlington AVS at the Arlington Community Center. Of the 37 who were in attendance, 27 received judges' certificates.

The new judges are Maxine V. Beam, Mrs. Charles M. Berry, Myrtle Chilcutt, Annita Corley, Alex Early, Mrs. B. A. Forcht, Bill Foster, Paula Foster, Mrs. Charles A. Frost, Dr. David Fuchshuber, Mrs. Eva Griffiths, Mrs. W. H. Haugh, Mrs. James A. Hankerson, Mrs. Hervey S. Hutchins, Mamie Johnson, Mrs. Jeanie Jenkins, Mrs. John Kreska, Mrs. J. R. Millikan, Mrs. Donald L. Nichols, Mrs. T. W. Padgett, Mrs. O. G. Pierson, Diana Ringler, Mrs. Jimmy Robinson, Mrs. Dorothy R. Stubbs, Mrs. D. L. Treadway, Mrs. T. L. Wheeler, and Mrs. Alvan L. Whitfield. This makes a total of 30 judges in a 150-mile radius in Texas. The others are: Mrs. Roy C. Basham and Mrs. W. J. Ritmanich, Lifetime judges, and Mrs. S. W. Jeffrey.

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## JUDGING SCHOOLS BEING CONDUCTED

During the past year 25 judging schools were held and 310 judges' certificates and two teachers' certificates were issued, according to Ruth Carey, chairman of AVSA Shows and Judges Committee. A total of 546 newsletters were mailed, she added.

In addition to the judging school conducted during the AVSA convention in Boston, six other schools were held this year and one is scheduled for September. In May, schools were held in Albuquerque, NM, Montgomery, AL, and Toronto, Canada. In June schools were conducted in Tucson, AZ and Denver, CO.

On Sept. 8 a judging school will be held in North Canton, OH, and on July 12-13 another school was conducted in Regina, Sask., Canada.

A judging school will be held on October 9-10, 1975 by the New York State AVS in Orishany, NY. Mrs. Ralston Bardeen, 4 Andrews Avenue, Binghamton, NY 13904, is local chairman, Mrs. Harold Rienhardt, Syracuse, NY will be the teacher.

# 4 Hybrids from Linda Star and Triple Threat





By  
**MAUDE COOK**  
**BEAUMONT, TEXAS**

(Photos by Becker)

Hybridizing can bring some amazing and varied results from the same source. See blossoms from plants at left for varieties. Larger plants show progress of hybridizing.

**Blossom Arrangement**  
**opposite page on tray.**

- 1. TEXAS RAINBO**
- 2. SUZI**
- 3. STAR FANTASY**
- 4. FUCHSIA BEAUTY**



**STAR FANTASY**

**FUCHSIA BEAUTY**



**TEXAS RAINBO**  
**Lower Left**

**SUZI**  
**Lower Right**

# Maude Cook Starts Hybridizing Again - Gets What She Wanted

Once a hybridizer — always a hybridizer.

That's the opinion of 79-year-old Maude Cook of 1505 Corley in Beaumont, TX, who for several years was completely devoted to hybridizing, then dropped it, and now is back at it again!

"I'm not sure just when I started making like a bee with lilies," Mrs. Cook explained. "I'd been with African violets perhaps about 18 years — now and then.

"After I hybridized 'Mr. Gus', as a tribute to Gus Becker, our magazine publisher, I stopped and spent my time at the 42 and 84 tables and with day lilies and amaryllis. Now here I go again! I'm really delighted I have some seed pods on the way."

Right now she's come up with a seedling she's very proud of.

"It's just what I was working for," she went on.

"Many years ago Lyndon Lyon had a fantasy called 'Jane Star'. I loved it. Its multicolored blossoms seemed to please me.

"So I used 'Jane Star' on an unnamed light blue seedling. 'Linda Star' was the result. Sometime she would have one stem with fantasy blooms; and often it looked as if there might be a bit of pink in the fantasy ones.

"Then I decided to take Lyon's 'Triple Threat', a very lovely large fluffy pink, and crossed it on the 'Linda Star' of fantasy bloom and so got just what I wanted.

"Now I have some lovely plants — some solid pink — others one-half pink with fantasy — still others with streaks and stripes and speckles — even one with a very dark strawberry foliage. I've named it 'Texas Sunset', so called because of its multicolored blooms. I even have some with a slight 'Tommie Lou' edge. Where from, I don't know. Perhaps from 'Triple Threat'.

"Here are some of my other hybrids:

"'Texas Rainbow', a double blossom with plain quilted leaf with multicolored two-inch blooms — others in solid pink.

"'Susi Kraus' with multi 2½-inch blossoms, all fluffy, with quilted leaf. The babies are variegated foliage, but so far I have been unable to keep the large plants variegated.

"'Star Fantasy' is a semi-double with all the multicolored blossoms. These plants are all 'Star's' old regular varieties: 'Purple Popcorn', variegated leaf, double purple blooms; 'Mr. Gus', variegated foliage with double reddish purple blossoms; 'Susan Sweet', variegated foliage, pink blooms; 'Texas Blue Treasure', variegated foliage, light blue

blossoms; 'Texas Pride', double white blossoms, plain green leaves. All of these are AVSA registered plants.

"'Mr. Gus' and 'Texas Blue Treasure' are also registered with Dixie AVS.

"'Texas Rainbow', 'Susi Kraus', 'Texas Storm Cloud' and 'Star Fantasy' are now being registered with Mrs. Adele Tretter, AVSA registrant.

"'Texas Storm Cloud' has 2½-inch blossoms. I call it fuchsia since it's not blue nor purple. This plant is more variegated than any of the rest. They all grow very fast and symmetrical. There are only 18 of these. The seed pod was small. I cannot grow seed pods in wick-fed pots very well. They rot. I have hopes for three or more of this cross but will have to wait and see.

"This cross was made so that we could have a seedling for our Dixie convention. The single one is very much like Lyndon Lyon's 'Jane Star' and placed first at the convention. The double ones were left home since they take longer to bloom.

"Some of my old varieties have not been registered. They are 'Blue Melody', 'Sunrise Serenade' (variegated), 'Raspberry Fluff' (variegated), 'Storm Cloud' (variegated), 'Susan Pink', 'Single Blue Skies' and several others."

Many of Mrs. Cook's hybrids have been pictured in *The African Violet Magazine*. She bought her first violet in 1951 and is the oldest active member of the AVS of Beaumont. In fact, she considers herself the "club's grandma". She is membership chairman of the club this year and is helping new members with their violets.

Mrs. Cook also hybridizes amaryllis. Her third generation of amaryllis is blooming now. Mrs. Cook began the long process with two amaryllis. One was a Dutch hybrid and the other what she called her "miracle lily" because it came up one day among her other flowers. It was such an unusual mixture of red and white that she decided to cross it with her Dutch hybrid.

After four years the second generation started blooming.

One of her favorite amaryllis has a bloom 12 inches in diameter. Her beds are filled with colorful blooms, anywhere from 8 to 10 inches wide.

Mrs. Cook has no idea how many varieties of African violets and amaryllis she has created. She has offers from a Dutch firm to buy her amaryllis bulbs.

"Now that I'm back again hybridizing African

violets, I hope to keep on raising African violets for many years," she concluded. "Few people realize the kind and wonderful friends one makes with others who are interested in growing African violets."

A winner of numerous flower show ribbons, Mrs. Cook has a license and sells many of her beautiful African violet plants.

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## AFFILIATE PUBLICATIONS DISPLAYED AT BOSTON

*Edward Bradford*  
*Affiliate Publications Chairman*  
87-05 89th Avenue  
Woodhaven, NY 11421

An exhibit of affiliate publications was a special added attraction at the Boston convention show. Nine state and local AVSA affiliates submitted copies of their publications for this first nonjudged display:

African Violet Council of Southern California & Northern Council of African Violet Societies: *The Council News*

African Violet Society of Minnesota: *The Violet Press*

African Violet Society of San Francisco: *Newsletter*

Bay State (Massachusetts) African Violet Society: *Ye Bay Stater*

Gloxinia Gesneriad Growers (Denver): *The Rockyglox News*

New York City African Violet Society: *The Saintpaulian*

New York State African Violet Society: *The Empire Violet Magazine*

Ohio State African Violet Society: *The Newsletter*

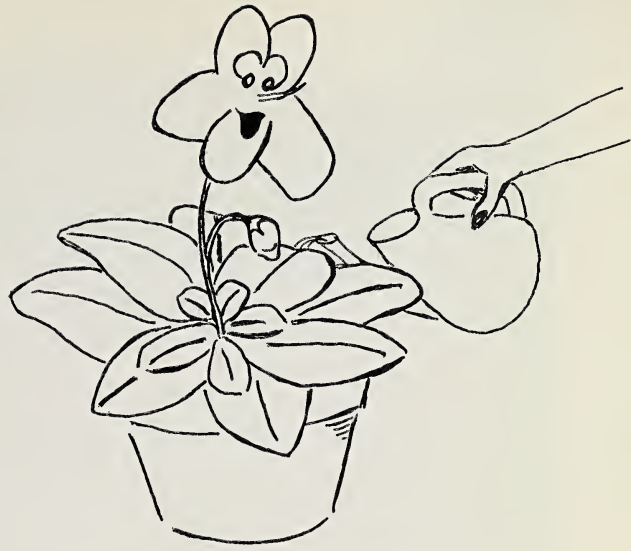
Seattle African Violet Society, Inc.: *Blossoms*

The AVSA Board of Directors approved a resolution "to have two competitive classes in the convention show schedule for Affiliate Magazines or Newsletters" for publications of (a) 16 pages or less per issue and (b) more than 16 pages per issue. The first competition will be at the 1976 Atlanta convention show. Entries will be merit judged and blue and red rosettes will be awarded for best and second best entries in each class.

A scale of points will be furnished on request to exhibitors who desire to enter for competition. Please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Edward Bradford. Additional information on how to enter will appear in the 1976 show schedule.

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Names of newly elected officers are to be sent to Helen Freie, Affiliate chairman — NOT TO THE EDITOR!



**Thanks. I needed that!**

(Sketch by Sharon Bruce, Worthington, OH)

**Invents own device for watering**

## DIFFERENT - - BUT TRUE!

*Miss Joel McDonald*  
1034 Kings Park  
Memphis, Tenn. 38117

I think I have invented one of the greatest devices in the world for watering African violets — both large and small.

I just got tired of using a larger watering can and getting water where it shouldn't be and the small cans never held enough water for me to finish my job without a couple of stops for re-filling.

So I hit upon this idea. It's certainly different and may not appeal to many readers but here it is:

One day I bought a bright yellow enema bag and had an artistic friend of mine paint some flowers and greenery on it to disguise its looks a bit. When I used it the first time the water rushed out too hard and fast so I got about an 8" narrow cocktail straw and glued it to the original nozzle with a waterproof glue.

Now it's a fantastic watering device because the straw will get under the leaves so easy, even among the tiny miniature leaves, and it's also great for terrariums. The flow of water can be regulated and shut on and off with the little metal clip that came with it. I also put a shower curtain hook through the hole in the top so it's easy to carry around and when I'm through watering I just hang it on anything with a small knob or nail.

### PLEASE BE PATIENT

If your article or picture has not been printed in the magazine, please be patient. As soon as space is available, it will be used.



**VELVET RIBBONS**  
Best seedling at AVSA  
Convention.

**TWO WINNERS**  
HYBRIDIZED BY  
JEAN DOLAN  
STONY CREEK, CT

(Photos by Burton)



**WINTER GRAPE**  
Second best seedling at  
AVSA Convention

# Question Box



By Anne Tinari, Tinari Greenhouses  
2325 Valley Road, Huntingdon Valley, Pa. 19006

Dear Readers:

It is always fun to reminisce with members who are kind enough to write us of their experiences. Parts of the following letter are so interesting to me, I must share them with you.

"Dear Anne . . . In 1955 when all my rooms were filled with over 50 varieties, I bought second-hand fluorescent lights and moved everything to the cellar. There I had great fun and also trouble with nematodes, mite, etc. In those days when we made up our potting soil using part sand, I bought home a bag of sand. Now you must remember back in those times car drivers carried salted sand in bags in the car, both for extra weight and for use on icy roads. Unfortunately, I got one of those salted bags by mistake, I made up my soil mix and could not understand why about 75 young plants died until a white substance started coming to the top. I was really set on going into the business but after three disasters decided it was not for me. But today I am back growing violets for pleasure."

Q. Dear Anne . . . HELP! Now it would be just my luck to get any new disease that comes along. After examining my large violet collection I find at least 20 with intense red-back leaves. I have been collecting African violets for the past three years and have been through many of the pests attacking violets, but with this new threat what should I do?

A. Cool it, my dear. A cultivar with a red back leaf certainly does not determine disease. I'm afraid in our great anxiety to identify suggestions of the disease (which I feel is truly a misnomer) can be disastrous. Until a disease has been identified in the laboratory by knowledgeable personnel acquainted with all the facets of plant life it can hardly be classified as such. It is presumptuous to assume results of an existing new disease until at least our research committee has confirmed it. This is in progress by material sent in to them.

However, may I suggest you do not jump to conclusions? One must consider all the symptoms affecting the plant, not just the foliage. Please remember we have had red-back leaves on Saint-paulias since the first original ten cultivars were released on the US market. One need only re-

member 'Neptune' with the exciting cupped leaf and intense red-back foliage and there were scores of others. I can appreciate your concern as we are all concerned of any new danger to our favorite plant. Some of the leaves that have arrived at my desk are obviously intense red-back leaves of dozens of beautiful varieties that exist, so we must wait to see what results are gleaned by reasearch. In the meantime, I urge you to keep up good cultural practices as usual, keep a CLEAN program and a critical eye for things out of the ordinary, plus a record of any unusual growth you may encounter.

Q. Do you recommend scraping the stem when sinking medium size plants lower in pots to get better rooting?

A. Not exactly scraping but removing any old material and tiny leaves that are on the stalk.

Q. I use rooting hormones whenever I think of it, but cannot decide if it makes any difference. Do you use any in the greenhouse?

A. Yes, we use hormone powder on the end of the cuttings before putting them into root. We believe it tends to make for a more even, quicker growth and somewhat stronger.

Q. I am very anxious to enter my violets in a show, but they are not overly large. I keep them symmetrical but they just don't grow and blossom heavy all at one time. Can small plants win a place in the show? And how can I have my plants to grow more profuse and larger blossoms?

A. Size of show plants is not as important as the perfection of them. Keep pot-bound until they really do need a larger size pot. Rarely is more than a 4" used.

The practice of disbudding is often recommended for show plants to try to make them bloom fully at the proper time. This is explained in detail in "The African Violet Handbook for Judges and Exhibitors" by Ruth Carey which is advertised in the current issue of the African Violet Magazine.

Q. Dear Anne . . . I am retired with time on my hands. My family gave me African violet plants all in bloom and they were beautiful. That was it! I

was hooked. Plants have done well. Then in Nov. in the AV magazine an article about the pH factor and the use of litmus paper red for this, blue for that, discouraged me.

What business has a man growing violets when he is color blind . . . tell me!

A. I am so glad you have become a victim of "Violetitis" with all the rest of us!

The handicap you mention is incidental to the joy and personal satisfaction of growing African violets. The challenge is exhilarating.

Try to follow the main basic rules of using food, pasturized soil you can depend on, which has a pH factor of 6.4. Keep plants in proportion to the pot, general cleanliness at all times, constant mild feeding, using a good general insecticide about once a month, such as 50% or 57% Malathion, Kelthane, or the Antrol bomb and just play it cool.

I am acquainted with other folks who share your complaint but they do an excellent job of growing lovely specimen African violets.

Q. Dear Anne . . . As members of a new violet club just formed, we would like to inquire if one has to be a member of AVSA to enter violets in the convention shows. We are anxious to show in Atlanta next year and have an enthusiastic growing club.

A. It's always delightful to read about the formation of a new club. Please refer to AVSA magazine, Vol. 28, No. 1, January 1975. On page 41 are the Amateur Division of Rules and Regulations. Please note Rule No. 16: Only AVSA members in good standing are eligible to enter exhibits in convention shows.

Q. Why on the outside leaves, does there appear a mushy spot on the center of the leaf, spreading to destroy an entire leaf?

A. Rhizoctonia (a fungus) may be responsible for leaf spot of African violets. In leaf rot, the mushy spots may vary in size from 1/2 to 3/4 inch, a translucent ring then usually surrounds such spots and will spread if not checked by proper air circulation. Best to take off affected leaves and destroy. Space plants so there is sufficient movement of air.

Q. Why do tips of outside leaves turn brown?

A. This may be symptomatic of a lack of potash in the soil. This is the reason if people make their own soil mixture should avoid the mistake that it looks or feels right but rather they should have it tested before using to establish the proper pH for good constant growth. We recommend a pH of about 6.4, slightly acid.

Q. Dear Anne . . . When the leaf has developed new plants I try to separate different plants which

grew from the same leaf. Some simply curl up and generally do quite poorly. How large should the plants be before I try to separate them, also tell me what is meant by a fantasy type violet?

A. In regards to your letter, you no doubt are attempting to separate plantlets too soon. It is wise to let plants grow from the mother leaf without separation until they are at least 3" high and strong enough to be separated with minimal danger to the fibrous roots by placing each plantlet in a very small pot.

A "fantasy" type blossom is one that is also known as multicolored. The description would be a blossom with two or more colors.

Q. In the last few months, my clay pots have gotten a green mold on them, which I can't seem to get rid of. I have never had this problem before. Have I picked up a fungus somewhere? How do I get rid of this problem and how do I keep it away?

A. This is possibly an algae that spread to your pots and benches. A rather normal phenomenon in the greenhouse atmosphere. That is the one reason we prefer plastic to clay pots as it does not seem to adhere as readily to them and they are easily washed.

We often find this algae even grows on the glass partitions and the only way to combat it is to wash it off periodically. When necessary our crew takes very stiff brushes and goes over the areas where it accumulates. Good old-fashioned soap and water or detergent can be used. Good air circulation and cleanliness are the only factors that will keep it at a minimum.

Q. Where can I purchase some of the gorgeous specimen plants I see pictured in the magazine? They are so great, it is hard to believe they are real.

A. Most of the specimen plants that win prizes are not for sale but raised purposely with patience and extreme care for exhibition. Most any plant with time and proper growing conditions can produce the same results from a healthy cutting or 2 1/4" or 3" pot size plant which one can buy.

Q. I'm anxious to grow violets from seed. Where can they be obtained and how do I go about it? I really prefer the unusual varieties.

A. Raising violets from seed is challenging and rewarding. Two sources of seed are The Burpee Co., in Philadelphia and the Geo. W. Park Seed Co. of Greenwood, S.C. 29646. However, the unusual combination you prefer would be best be obtained by doing your own hybridizing and this is explained in detail in Helen Van Pelt Wilson's book.

Q. Dear Anne . . . I have tried in vain to hybridize with the beautiful white violet 'Miriam Steel' but without success. Can you make a suggestion?

A. In our experience we have found that the white varieties are the most difficult types to carry seed. Your best bet would be to use the pollen from the 'Miriam Steel' and carry it to another chosen plant you wish to hold it on in hopes of getting color and traits of the 'Miriam Steel' variety.

Q. Some of my plants have lower leaves that simply turn yellow though the leaf looks healthy. What would be the cause?

A. Often leaves that turn yellow may be caused by any of the following: Lack of nitrogen, lack of phosphorous, too strong light, root rot, lack of moisture, lack of magnesium. Particular varieties may be more susceptible to this problem than others. Also check your lighting conditions and food conditions. Plants should be constantly mildly fed for best results. We currently recommend the Peters 12-36-14 formula used at 1/4 tsp. per gallon water at every watering.

#### TIMELY TIPS

**TIP No. 1** — Dear Anne, I had to learn the hard way. I lost a large number of violets and couldn't guess why. Finally, I realized that weed spray was being used outdoors and the men came into lunch without a clothing change. No doubt constant harmful fumes penetrated the atmosphere and eventually my plants just curled and died.

**TIP No. 2** — In an effort not to overfeed my plants I find it wise to make sure soil is damp before feeding. Water evaporates and unused fertilizer accumulates in the soil. Excess fertilizer will produce yellow foliage, burn roots, and cause hard brittle foliage. Even flowers will be smaller and of poor quality. African violets are slow growers and the effects of any change in culture cannot be observed immediately. The use of a good balanced fertilizer in a weak proportion at every watering, especially the ones growing under my fluorescent lights, reward me with good results.

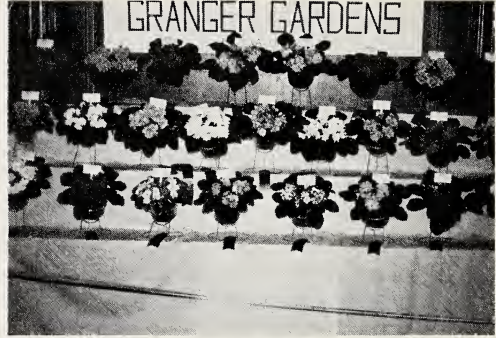
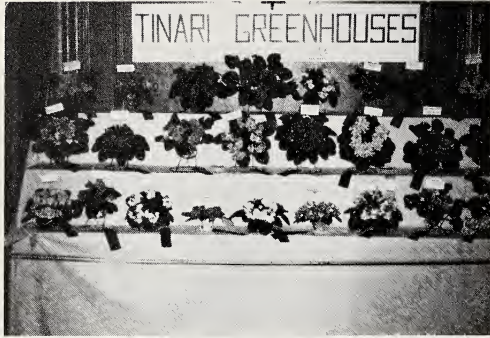
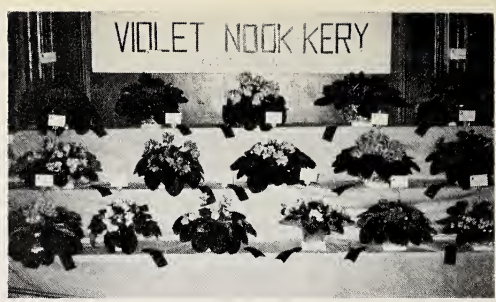
**TIP No. 3** — In growing show plants I find it very harmful to suddenly increase or decrease the light factor. Also I never leave the removal of plants, that are to be shown, under the lights until the 11th hour. I take them out at least two days in advance of the show and examine them very carefully leaving them under the natural light for their last final inspection, I'm always tempted with sudden decision they would look better in a larger or smaller pot, but have finally decided against this as the transferring of a plant for show results in a murderous injury to the fibrous roots.

I also find it wise to omit food for the last few waterings and let them be on their own in final preparation for the big day.



**WIN AWARDS...** Diane and Edgar Rase were winners of both AVSA Collection Awards at the Maryland State AVS' sixth annual show, "Violet Time in Maryland", held in Baltimore. Mrs. Rase (top photo) also took Best in Show with 'Wisteria' and in lower photo the two are shown with 'Wisteria', 'Fandango' and 'Silver Crest', which won the Gold Rosette for Mrs. Rase and 'Fire Bird', 'Double Black Cherry' and 'Blue Reverie', which won the Purple Rosette for Mr. Rase. Mrs. Rase's other awards were best oldie and best variegated, 'Silver Crest', sweepstakes awards with 23 blue ribbons, and eight best in class. Other awards were: Best arrangement, 'Mountain Majesty' and best mini, 'Tini Roses', Bea Sauter; and best gesneriad, Streptocarpus Constant Nymph, Norma Ventura, club president.





## Commercials at AVSA Convention

*Cordelia Rienhardt  
4463 W. Seneca Tpk.  
Syracuse, NY 13215*

(I would like to thank Ann Richardson and Leila Egenites for their assistance in writing up the displays).

One of the most exciting parts of the AVSA convention and show is always the commercial display tables. This is where you get to see the brand new introductions that the commercials are getting ready to release. Jimmy Watson, the new chairman of Commercial Sales & Exhibits, did a good job and persuaded six prominent growers to set up display tables. This means a display of at least 15 and not more than 25 show plants on each table.

These displays are judged and points tabulated to decide who wins the best display. All plants are merit judged with each blue ribbon counting 5 points, red ribbon 3 points, and white ribbon one point. Then there are special rosettes in red, blue and white which count 15, 13 and 10 points respectively. There are rosettes given for "Horticultural Perfection" and for "Best New Introductions." The entire section is judged by 3 teams of

judges and all take part in picking the best, second and third best "New Introductions." No names are on the displays until the judging is over. Judges try very hard to be as fair as possible.

Section I, classes 1 and 2, are for any commercial member who perhaps doesn't feel able to compete against the BIG commercials. In these classes, you may enter as few or as many as you wish. There were 35 plants entered in this section this year, so we are making progress. The silver cup for the best registered variety was awarded to Ethel Champion with her plant of 'Garnet Elf'. Second best went to Rienhardt's with good ole 'Tommie Lou'. Best seedling and sweepstakes were won by Jean Dolan of the Violet Room, Stony Creek, CT.

Lyon Greenhouse, Dolgeville, NY, received the most points to qualify for the Best Commercial display and was awarded the Society Silver Bowl. They also received the red rosette for



second best in "Horticultural Perfection," winning 25 blue ribbons. Their plant of 'Christi Love' was judged best new introduction, a beautiful orangy coral double; second best was 'Winter's Dream', a lovely, large double white; third best went to 'Wild Country', a dark blue with white edging and a simply huge flower (the largest I have ever seen). Other interesting new ones on the Lyon display were 'Red Trophy', a good red double; 'Cherokee Fire', a fuchsia pink double on pretty variegated foliage; 'Tribute', a deep dark blue on Tommie Lou foliage.

Granger Gardens, Medina, OH won the second best commercial display by points and also received the Blue Rosette for best in "Horticultural Perfection" with 25 perfect show plants. The 'Pink Electra' won the Pink Rosette for the best plant in their display. It has deep pink ruffled bloom with olive green tailored foliage. 'Faith' was outstanding, a pure white full double ruffled bloom held high above dark quilted foliage. 'Cimarron', a huge lavender pink has bright fuchsia red tipping, extremely floriferous. 'Lavender Tempest' is a gorgeous lavender pink, blending to fuchsia and trimmed with a white edge. These new seedlings were crowned with full bloom, making a breath taking display.

Tinari Greenhouses, Huntingdon Valley, PA, won the Paul Revere Bowl for the third best commercial display. They also placed third in "Horticultural Perfection" with 25 blues. 'Gypsy Pink' was judged best plant in their display. It was an iridescent fluffy double pink. 'Flag Blue' and 'Concord Purple' were two new good dark ones which

we seem to need so badly. '75 Pink' is a huge single pink of a truly luscious shade. 'Bicentennial Star' is a lovely coral red single and 'Bicentennial Belle' is a large true pink shade in a full double.

Buells Greenhouses, Eastford, CT. This beautiful display received the Honorable Mention Rosette for the fourth "Best Commercial" display table with 113 points. There were 24 African violets and one Gloxinia as yet not named. 'Seventh Heaven', a large trailer with profuse double pink blossoms, caused much comment as did the best plant in the collection 'Pure Innocence' which had beautiful ruffled foliage. A "different" plant was 'Opal' which indeed did remind one of the jewel.

Heavenly Violets Trumbull, CT. This being only the second time that Mrs. Mary V. Boose has put a display in an AVSA Convention, she is to be complimented on being awarded a blue ribbon on all 15 of her plants with a total of 75 points. The pink rosette for best plant was 'Starshine' and the very attractive seedling, 'White Gleam' is a "child" of Cora and Newell Mallette. Mrs. Boose told us she will be the exclusive distributor of the Irene Fredette originals in the future.

The Violet Nook-Kery, Clinton, CT, won 15 blue ribbons in the display of 16 magnificent plants. 'Ruffled Red' won best in the display. It is a brilliant red fuchsia, ruffled blooms and dark olive green ruffled foliage. 'Tinted Ruffles' was covered with soft pink blooms with deeper pink ruffled edge. 'Coral Lee', 'Ann Slocomb', 'Swan Lake' and 'Sand Piper' were also displayed fully bloomed to paint a beautiful picture.

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*The yre in Wild Array . . .*

## *No Shrinking Violets at Commercials' Greenhouses*

Have you ever been to one of the AVSA Commercial members' greenhouses?

No? Well, you must make it a point to visit one, especially if you're an African violet freak and if these pussycats of the indoor plant world are pampered darlings in your home!

Actually you might call these Commercial growers' greenhouses the Baskin-Robbins of African violets, but they really have the "31 flavors" ice cream franchise beat by more than a couple of dips! Why? Because most of the commercials have hundreds — yea, maybe thousands — of varieties — and with names that sound good enough to eat like 'Pink Frost', 'Peach Pink', 'Ripe Plum', 'Silver Swirl', and 'Strawberry Red'.

And there are violets in colors you never dreamed existed . . . fuchsias, magentas, blues, purples,

and every shade of pink possible.

No matter how many of these floral adorables you already have primping themselves in your windows or under fluorescent lights, you'll probably want to add at least half a dozen more to your collection if you ever make that trip to a commercial greenhouse.

And best of all, each one of the plants you buy is identified — not like those unknowns you buy in downtown stores. All of the commercials have good selections of plant foods and supplies, too, and a helpful sheet on violet care.

So next time you're in the vicinity of a Commercial's greenhouse, drop in and see the gorgeous array of violets. For those of you who venture through, I just can't imagine your driving off with an empty trunk.

# Two-Year Research Program Now Under Way at Penn State

Under the direction of Dr. Richard Craig, associate professor of plant breeding at Penn State University, a two-year research project is being done with funds provided by the Boyce Edens Research Fund.

In an interim report at the Boston AVSA convention, Frank Tinari, chairman of the AVSA Research Committee, announced that this project is being pursued with vigor by Dr. Craig with a staff of knowledgeable people.

Briefly the following is being done:

50 cultivars are being used.

32 species and species derivatives.

They are being treated with gamma irradiation.

The work will be done in phases.

1. Propagation methods, 90 leaves of 'Pink Philly' were donated for this work.

2. Preliminary research on seed and pollination at least one generation.

3. Treatment with chemical mutagen is planned, using 7 leaves of all 85 accessions in each treatment.

Treatment dates: November 6, 1974, December 12, 1974, April, 1975.

420 treated leaves, 168 control leaves, expected harvest 3000 plantlets. Expected observation of 10,000 plants for mutation color variation, etc.

4. Gamma irradiation started February, 1975. 30 cuttings of each sample collection were used in each of 4 treatments.

For the in-depth study of genetic variation within the genus, 50 cultivars were contributed by Mr. Tinari and 32 species and species derivatives were provided by Henry Peterson. These plants have been used as a source of propagative materials for the mutation breeding research. The original plants will be maintained as a permanent collection for comparison purposes.

Preliminary research on propagative methods has begun and an experiment was conducted with 90 leaves of the cultivar 'Pink Philly'. Five leaves were included in each of 18 treatments, which were studied in a controlled environment growth room under accepted research conditions.

A preliminary experiment has also been conducted to gather data on pollination methods and seed production. These preliminary experiments have provided the necessary data to support the objectives of the mutation breeding project, according to Dr. Craig.

Observation of all plantlets for mutations will continue throughout 1975.

"We expect to harvest approximately 10,000 plantlets," Dr. Craig said. "Seed will be produced on a sample of the plantlets from each accession. Since only dominant mutations will be observed in the plantlets, the observation of recessive mutants must be made within the self-pollinating progeny of these plantlets. Seed production will be initiated in September, 1975."

Dr. Craig has also begun a preliminary research on treatment of Saintpaulia with gamma irradiation. Treatment of leaves of all accessions will depend on the outcome of the preliminary research.

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## Young Grower Sells Leaves at Boston

AVSA Commercials, who've been growing African violets for years, were delighted to welcome into their membership pretty 20-year-old Judy Stroske of Springfield, VA, at the commercials breakfast at the AVSA Boston convention.

A Penn State graduate in horticulture and ornamental nursery management, Miss Stroske is operator of the Crestwood Violetry in Springfield. She received her Bachelor's degree on May 10 from Penn State where she was graduated with high distinction and was named "Outstanding Student."

The young African violet grower is also an AVSA Life Member. She opened her shop last summer. Boston was her first selling experience as a commercial member of AVSA.

Her advertising technique was displayed in her booth in the Sales Room, where she used as a background a large display of colorful African violet pictures. And her business was pretty brisk, too — for she was selling leaves of all the violets pictured, and her customers knew what they were getting.

Miss Stroske also handles the 10 original Armacost and Royston varieties.

The young grower was accompanied to the convention by her mother, who said that Judy had been growing African violets since she was 12 years old.

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Names of newly elected officers are to be sent to Helen Freie, Affiliate chairman — NOT TO THE EDITOR!



*Helen Freie  
Affiliate Chairman  
4854 N. Cedar Ave.  
El Monte, CA 91732*



At this writing, almost all clubs have their shows behind them for this year, and, most were prompt in reporting the results to me. For this I am extremely thankful, and happy to find so many outstanding shows this year. I found the arrangement of your schedules to be very much improved over last year. Finding where the AVSA Collection Awards was listed was little or no trouble at all. Many of you took my advice and listed this class in a very prominent place in the top sections of your schedules. This was wonderful, and I do appreciate it. You will never know what a time saver a small thing like this can be for me. I am sure the display of these Collection Awards must have been extremely beautiful this year for many clubs had three and four entries which is really great, and your show scores were ever so much higher. Would you believe that there are nearly twice as many STANDARD SHOW ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS (Blue Rosettes) to be awarded at convention next year? I hope there will be more among the late clubs to report, and besides there are about a dozen Fall shows to be held in October and November. Wonderful! I think it is, and I am proud of all of you. To those of you who didn't make it this time, please don't be discouraged, but be determined to do it next year. In our Country's Bicentennial year, let us make this the biggest year yet for Violets too!!

Now I have a bit of news for all clubs that have shows. At the Boston convention, the Board of Directors approved this new ruling to be effective October 1, 1975. Beginning October 1, you will find enclosed with your AVSA Collection awards two cards to be displayed at your show, a green

one, if you win the Standard Show Award (Green Rosette) if your show scores 90 or more points, a blue card if you win the Standard Show Achievement Award (Blue Rosette) if your show scores 95 or more points. You are to keep the cards and display them IF YOU WIN. If you don't score 90 or more points, please return them immediately. The Green Rosette will be mailed to you as soon as I receive the show evaluation sheets and the scores and names of the winners of the AVSA Collection Awards. All of these forms MUST be mailed back in one package, even though there were NO winning scores, plus the unused Rosettes. The Blue Rosette will continue to be awarded at convention. Do you like the Idea? Let me hear from you with your opinion. I am sure the clubs will be pleased to display these cards on their Awards Table.

#### NEW AFFILIATES

This month we take great pride in welcoming into affiliation these seven new clubs. It is a pleasure to include you in our ever growing family of affiliates.

**SPRING BRANCH AFRICAN VIOLET CLUB**  
Mrs. Anita Pennington, Pres.  
4438 Monteith Drive, Spring, TX 77373

**BLACK AFRICAN VIOLET CULTURE CLUB**  
Mrs. Teresa Rodgers, Pres.  
845 - 53rd St., Port Arthur, TX 77640

**AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY OF GAINESVILLE**  
Mrs. Robert Ernst, Pres.  
221 S.E. 71st St., Gainesville, FL 32601

**HEART OF TEXAS AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY**  
Mrs. R. H. Nelson, Pres.  
5943 Caldwell, Waco, TX 76710

**VIOLETA SOCIETY OF DE RIO GRANDE**  
Mrs. Agnes Chadwick, Pres.  
3411 - 21 Ave. S.E., Rio Rancho, NM 87124

**SUBURBAN AFRICAN VIOLET ENTHUSIASTS**  
Mr. Wilbur Schroeder, Pres.  
296 E. 169th Place, So. Holland, IL 60473

**AVSA JUDGES COUNCIL OF SOUTHERN CALIF.**  
Mrs. Helen Freie, Pres.  
4854 N. Cedar Ave., El Monte, CA 91732

#### AVSA STANDARD SHOW AWARD

The AVSA STANDARD SHOW AWARD is

given to each affiliate, (chapter, regional, council or state group) once yearly, if the show score is 90 or more points. It is our pleasure to announce these winners:

ALEXANDRIA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mrs. Joe L. Williamson, Show Chairman, Alexandria, LA. Theme: "Violets In February" 2/15,16/75.

UPPER PINELLAS AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mrs. Alice T. Yawger, Show Chairman, Clearwater, FL. Theme: "Violets for Sweethearts" 2/13,14,15/75.

AFRICAN VIOLET CLUB OF GREATER KANSAS CITY, Dr. Ralph D. Lakey, Show Chairman, Lenexa, KA. Theme: "The World of Violets" 2/15,16/75.

CORPUS CHRISTI AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mrs. Sandra Sigler, Show Chairman, Corpus Christi, TX. Theme: "Poppins With Violets" 2/22,23/75.

THE FIRST NEW ORLEANS AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mrs. Betty Eastin, Show Chairman, New Orleans, LA. Theme: "Violets—At the Mardi Gras" 2/22/75.

FIRST ARLINGTON AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mrs. Barbara Nichols, Show Chairman, Arlington, TX. Theme: "Violets For All Seasons" 2/28 - 3/1/75.

CENTRAL FLORIDA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mrs. C. W. Parks, Show Chairman, Winter Park, FL. Theme: "Violets Go On A Holiday" 3/1,2/75.

METROPOLITAN ST. LOUIS AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mrs. J. W. Reitz, Show Chairman, St. Louis, MO. Theme: "Violets Sing A Song of Seasons" 3/8,9/75.

TOP CHOICE AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mrs. Warren Rosenbaum, Show Chairman, Shreveport, LA. Theme: "A Violet Festival" 3/7,8/75.

AFRICAN VIOLET STUDY CLUB, Mrs. E. G. Brown, Show Chairman, Palmedale, AL. Theme: "Violets Are—Treasured Jewels" 3/13,14/75.

DELAWARE AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mrs. Rhoda Retkovis, Show Chairman, Gibbstown, NJ. Theme: "Violets On The Emerald Isle" 3/14,15,16/75.

THE HAINES CITY AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mrs. Atlee W. Davis, Show Chairman, Bartow, FL. Theme: "Melody Of Violets" 3/15,16/75.

THE FIRST AUSTIN AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mrs. Sandra Leary, Show Chairman, Austin, TX. Theme: "Remembering The Past—Toasting The Future" 3/15,16/75.

MONTGOMERY AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mrs. Mary Osborne, Show Chairman, Theme: "Violets Are A Girl's Best Friend" 3/15,16/75.

LONG ISLAND AFRICAN VIOLET SO-

CIETY, Mrs. E. G. Hengeveld, Show Chairman, East Rockaway, NY. Theme: "A Garden Of Violets" 4/5,6/75.

VIOLET HARMONY CLUB, Mrs. W. B. Stallings, Show Chairman, Fort Worth, TX. Theme: "Violets—Artists Dream" 3/15,16/75.

COLUMBUS AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mrs. Wm. M. Hamilton, Show Chairman, Columbus, OH. Theme: "Growing Lovelier" 3/27,28,29/75.

FORT WORTH AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mrs. L. W. Chilcutt, Show Chairman, Fort Worth, TX. Theme: "Happy Days With African Violets" 3/21,22,23/75.

NEW ORLEANS AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mrs. P. A. Brenner, Show Chairman, New Orleans, LA. Theme: "Way Down Yonder In New Orleans" 3/21,22/75.

MIRACLE STRIP AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY OF PANAMA CITY, Miss Ellen McCulloch, Show Chairman, Panama City, FL. Theme: "Violets Salute The Snowbirds" 3/22,23/75.

AFRICAN VIOLET CLUB OF TRENTON, Mrs. Elda M. Black, Show Chairman, Robbinsville, NJ. Theme: "French Cafe—Specialty—African Violets" 4/10,11,12/75.

BERGEN COUNTY AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mrs. Harry Loughlin, Show Chairman, Haledon, NJ. Theme: "On Violet Safari" 4/4,5/75.

UNION COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE AVSA OF AMERICA, Mrs. Janet T. Riemer, Show Chairman, Kendall Park, NJ. Theme: "When Knighthood Was In Flower" 4/4,5/75.

AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY OF SYRACUSE, Mr. Robert E. Casey, Show Chairman, Mattydale, NY. Theme: "Violets Under The Big Top" 4/5,6/75.

ALBUQUERQUE AFRICAN VIOLET CLUB, Mrs. J. M. Finnie, Show Chairman, Albuquerque, NM. Theme: "Violet Masterpieces" 4/5,6/75.

SAN MATEO COUNTY AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mrs. Edna Kilijan, Show Chairman, Foster City, CA. Theme: "A Concert of Violets" 4/5,6/75.

TRI-CITY AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mrs. Margaret Morrow, Show Chairman, Piqua, OH. Theme: "Blooming Challenge" 4/10,11,12/75.

POMONA VALLEY AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mrs. Alex Mueller, Show Chairman, LaVerne, CA. Theme: "Festival V.S.A." 4/11,12/75.

COPPER CITY AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Miss Wittmann, Show Chairman, Rome, NY. Theme: "Violets Visit The Erie Canal Villiage" 4/12,13/75.

BATON ROUGE AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mrs. Charles E. Jones, Show Chairman, Baton Rouge, LA. Theme: "Violets Make A Senti-

mental Journey" 4/12,13/75.

AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY OF STATEN ISLAND, Mr. John Hennessey, Show Chairman, Staten Island, NY. Theme: "Sweet, Sweet Sixteen" 4/11,12/75.

MID-SOUTH AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mrs. Morris Ridblatt, Show Chairman, Memphis, TN. Theme: "A Tropical Paradise" 4/17,18,19/75.

AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY OF SOUTH BAY, Mrs. Barbara McGee, Show Chairman, Saratoga, CA. Theme: "Hallmark of Violets" 4/24,25,26/75.

THE FIRST AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY OF WICHITA FALLS, Dr. Jackie Horton, Show Chairman, Iowa Park, TX. Theme: "With A Song In My Heart" 4/25/75.

T.H.E. AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mrs. J. M. Breckenridge, Show Chairman, Birmingham, AL. Theme: "It's Raining Violets" 4/25,26/75.

SILVERMINE AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mrs. Joseph Stramandole, Show Chairman, Darien, CT. Theme: "Heaven Is Violets" 5/3,4/75.

OCONOMOWOC AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mrs. Christine Booker, Show Chairman, Oconomowoc, WI. Theme: "Color My World With Violets" 5/2,3,4/75.

NORTH SHORE AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Gloria Rutmayer, Show Chairman, Hauppauge, NY. Theme: "Time Was....." 5/3,4/75.

EVENING AFRICAN VIOLET CLUB OF DES MOINES, Mrs. J. B. Kuhler, Show Chairman, Des Moines, IA. Theme: "Holidays With Violets" 5/3,4/75.

FIRST AFRICAN VIOLET STUDY CLUB OF ASHTABULA, Mr. Harry Burr, Show Chairman, Conneaut, OH. Theme: "Violets U.S.A." 5/3,4/75.

SEVEN VALLEY AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mrs. H. J. Altmann, Show Chairman, McGraw, NY. Theme: "Hawaii Calls—African Violets" 5/3,4/75.

PARMATOWN AFRICAN VIOLET CLUB, Mrs. Martha Fensel, Show Chairman, Parma, OH. Theme: "Violet Holiday" 5/9,10/75.

MILWAUKEE AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mr. R. P. Peters, Show Chairman, Nenomonee Falls, WI. Theme: "Our Silver Anniversary With African Violets" 5/8,9,10/75.

VENTURA COUNTY AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mr. Martin Castillo, Show Chairman, Ventura, CA. Theme: "Love is . . ." 5/24,25/75.

GLENDALE CHAPTER OF AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY OF AMERICA, Nadine Hummell, Show Chairman, Manhattan Beach, CA. Theme: "H.M.S. Saintpaulia" 3/22,23/75.

**PLEASE BE PATIENT**

If your article or picture has not been printed in the magazine, please be patient. As soon as space is available, it will be used.

## CROSS YOUR I . . . s and DOT YOUR T . . . s

Mrs. W. F. Anderson  
360 Tulip Drive  
St. Louis, MO 63119

It is a pleasure to share with you one of the delightful letters received from an AVSA member. Keep those letters and hints coming.

Dear Neva:

With my i's and t's and fingers crossed, I am hoping sincerely that each of our nearly 17,000 members will read and heed your excellent column. Here's my pledge for support:

I pledge allegiance here today  
To vi'lets and AVSA.

I'll strive to add new memberships,  
I'll always call a thrips "a thrips".

I'll disbud doubles, singles, stars  
And all my other cultivars.

I'll feed my plants what's apropos  
And always warm their H<sub>2</sub>O.

I'll cross my i's and dot my t's  
And always mind my q's and p's.

Sincerely,  
Bea Sauter  
Baltimore, MD

### SLOGAN WINNER!

C. Kitzmiller, 2149 Tynes Drive, Placentia, CA, is the winner of the AVSA Slogan Contest, sponsored by the AVSA membership and promotion committee.

Amy Lackner, committee chairman, offered a \$10 cash award for the best slogan, the winner being "Put Bloom in Your Room—African Violets".

Second place was won by Anne Tinari of Huntingdon Valley, PA, with "Start Something—Grow African Violets". Mrs. Tinari also won third place with another slogan, "African Violets—A Happy Hobby".

### CONVENTION DATES

1976 — Atlanta, GA. Sheraton-Biltmore Hotel, April 27-May 1.

1977 — St. Louis, MO. Chase Park Plaza Hotel, April 26 - 30.

1978 — Austin, TX. Driskill Hotel, April 13 - 15.

1979 — Denver, CO. Albany Hotel, June 6 - 9.

1980 — New Orleans, LA

# Columneas

Mrs. Warren F. Cressy, Jr.  
Dugway Road  
Falls Village, CT 06031

(This is the second article on gesneriads, "kissin' cousins" of African violets).

Most of us who have lowered our house temperatures because of fuel shortages probably wondered at first what effect cooler rooms would have on our plants. Some of my plants could not take the situation, but *columneas* have been a pleasant surprise. Except when the sun shines, winter temperature in the sun room is usually just under 60 degrees, and at night it may drop occasionally as low as 45 right beside the windows. That is pretty chilly but it does not bother them at all. Runners do not grow long as rapidly, but that is an advantage where space is limited. We have been taught that *columneas* like warmth, and certainly an extra 10 degrees would be more to their liking, and mine, but things have worked out well.

We have all read that *columneas* are subject to all the various pests that bother other gesneriads. No doubt that is true, but pests can be prevented with little trouble. I use no insecticides of any kind but do observe careful rules. Every new plant or cutting is quarantined for a few weeks. All materials and tools are sterilized. Plants are washed as often as possible with a spray of warm water, debris is picked up promptly. Never to my knowledge has an even questionable plant come to me from a reputable dealer. But plants bought at random or cuttings from a friend can easily bring problems. No one would deliberately sell or give a diseased or egg laden plant, but accidents can happen, and quarantine should be an unbreakable rule.

When you start with a 4" or 6" cutting, or a tiny plant with only one runner, how do you manage to grow a good bush plant that fills a 4" or 5" pot? Not difficult. As it grows, cut off another cutting and set that to root. Soon new shoots will appear from the base of the original one. Many people use plastic boxes with covers to root cuttings. I prefer individual pots covered with plastic bags. Rooting is quick, sometimes as soon as a week, in any mix you like for African violet leaves. Just be sure humidity is high and the mix is loose and fluffy. If you have enough cuttings, they can be spaced all around a 4" pot as well as in the center, so you will have a full plant quickly. As

shoots grow, keep them pinched back so they grow at even lengths and new ones will form at the base. Ideally the entire pot will soon be hidden. Frequent tip pinching produces a better looking plant than harder prunings at lengthy intervals.

There seem to be two main complaints about *columneas*: bud blast and leaf drop. Perhaps this is over simplification, but it seems to me that both are caused by too much or too little water, over fertilizing, and lack of humidity, especially lack of humidity in a hot room. If blasting occurs, mist more often, much more often if the room is very warm, stop or cut down fertilizer and be extra careful with water. Experiment a little. Experienced growers often disagree on methods so what works in one situation may not work in another. A branch that has lost most of its leaves, except a tuft at the end, spoils the appearance of the whole plant. New leaves will not grow in place of the fallen ones, although new branches may grow from some of the nodes. Cut an ungainly shoot right off at its base and two or three new ones will grow in its place. This next advice sounds a bit slipshod, but the fact is that if there is space in your pot you can push the good end of a shoot right into the mix and it will usually grow.

If a plant becomes too pot bound and you do not want to use a larger pot, treat it much as you would an African violet in a similar situation. Cut out old shoots, trim back any that are too long, cut off the bottom part of the roots, work out as much old soil as possible, using care with fine roots, repot in fresh soil. Do not fertilize until it begins to grow again, water sparingly. If you prefer to have only small pots, start new cuttings frequently, discarding older plants that need too much space. When you have a new choice plant, it is a good idea to start cuttings as soon as possible in case of accident although *columneas* are rugged little creatures!

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Want an AVSA emblem? Write to AVSA office,  
P. O. Box 1326, Knoxville, Tenn. 37901.

# BOYCE EDENS RESEARCH FUND

*Mrs. Paul O. Gillespie, Sr.  
5201 St. Elmo Avenue  
Chattanooga, Tenn. 37409*

## List of contributions to May 15, 1975

Ruth Miller of Los Gatos, CA, in memory of Augusta Ahm . . . . .	\$10.00
Santa Clara Valley (CA) AVS in memory of Rose Gasnean . . . . .	10.00
Viva La Violets of St. Louis, MO in lieu of teacher's fee to Mrs. W. F. Anderson . . . . .	25.00
Central Florida AVS of Orlando in lieu of judges' fee to Grace Gillespie . . . . .	10.00
Rainbow AVS of St. Louis, MO . . . . .	5.00
Metropolitan AVS of Peoria, IL in memory of Mrs. Elmen Lamb . . . . .	10.00
Bahamas AVS of Nassau . . . . .	10.00
First Arlington (TX AVS in memory of Mrs. R. J. Klazer . . . . .	10.00
Upper Pinellas AVS (FL) in lieu of judge's fee to Marjorie Edsten . . . . .	10.00
Columbus (OH) AVS . . . . .	15.00
AVS of Canton, OH . . . . .	5.00
Tallahassee AVS (FL) . . . . .	5.00
AVS of Houston, TX in lieu of speaker's fee to Julia Brittan . . . . .	10.00
Richmond (VA) AVS in memory of Mrs. John J. Lowe . . . . .	25.00
Violet Harmony Club of Fort Worth, TX . . . . .	5.00
Birmingham (AL) AVS in lieu of judge's expenses for Grace Gillespie . . . . .	15.00
Santa Clara Valley (CA) Club in memory of Mary Geraci . . . . .	10.00
Chattanooga (TN) AVS disbands and donates treasury funds . . . . .	125.26
Fleur de Lis AVS of St. Louis, MO . . . . .	5.00
AVS of Greater Montreal, Quebec . . . . .	25.00
AVS of Houston, TX, in lieu of speaker's fee to Mrs. G. H. Wilkins . . . . .	10.00
Gulf Breeze AVS of TX . . . . .	5.00
Holly Circle Garden Club (FL) in lieu of fee to Mrs. J. A. W. Richardson . . . . .	5.00
AVS of Gainesville, FL in lieu of speaker's fee to Mrs. J. A. W. Richardson . . . . .	10.00
Dorothy Lambert in memory of Mrs. Florence Schmidt . . . . .	5.00
Daytide AVS of New Berlin, WI . . . . .	5.00
San Diego (CA) AVS . . . . .	25.00
Metropolitan AVS of St. Louis, MO . . . . .	15.00
Green Thumb AVS of Attleboro, MA . . . . .	5.00
Cavalier AVS of St. Louis, MO . . . . .	5.00
Arline C. Taylor and Elfrieda Tiede in memory of Dona F. Emery . . . . .	10.00

New Orleans (LA) AVS . . . . .	10.00
Saintpaulia Club of Tacoma, WA . . . . .	10.00
Long Island (NY) AVS . . . . .	25.00
Treaty Towne (OH) AVS . . . . .	10.00
Harmony AVS of Houston, TX . . . . .	10.00

# AVSA BOOSTER FUND

*Mrs. Lucile Plaster, Chairman  
8304 Suffolk Dr.  
Shreveport, LA 71106*

Due to the enthusiasm of our contributors who wish to help our AVSA support extra projects for the benefit of all our AVSA members. our AVSA Booster Fund is growing. We wish to extend our appreciation to all of you.

Contributions March 1 through May 16, 1975:

Potomac Council of AV Judges, Fairfax, VA in memory of Louise A. Fields . . . . .	5.00
Fleur De Lis AVC, St. Louis, MO . . . . .	5.00
Mrs. G. H. Wilkins, AVSA commission on new member . . . . .	1.00
Gulf Breeze AVS, Corpus Christi, TX . . . . .	5.00
Tallahassee (FL) AVS . . . . .	5.00
Daytide AVS, New Berlin, WI . . . . .	5.00
Mrs. Harold Baker, St. Paul, MN, in memory of Dr. V. L. Van Zele . . . . .	25.00
AVS of Chattanooga, TN, club disbanded . . . . .	125.00
AVC of Trenton, NJ, in lieu of judge's expenses for Mr & Mrs. Glen B. Hudson . . . . .	10.00
Mrs. Glen B. Hudson, Westfield, NJ . . . . .	10.00
AVS of Greater N. Y. Inc., Esther Cohen, treas., Flushing, NY . . . . .	25.00

## Peat Moss

Having trouble with your peat moss?

Peat moss is one of the most important ingredients used by African violet growers, who often-times mishandle it and this presents problems.

It is important that peat moss be completely moistened before it is mixed with soil. Otherwise, it will be a long time in absorbing enough moisture from the soil to be damp itself. The dry particles of peat moss in contact with young rooted cuttings or seedlings can dehydrate the plant's roots and give it a severe setback.



# A Foote on the Violet Path

By Grace Foote

Many of our AVSA members have been asking recently what is being done with the Boyce Edens Research Fund and the AVSA Booster Fund, to which many individuals and clubs make regular contributions. Frank Tinari, chairman of the AVSA Research Committee, and his committeemen have been taking your queries and suggestions and have been trying to do something about them. His committees consists of Hugh Eyerdom of Granger Gardens, Medina, OH, Lyndon Lyon of Dolgeville, NY, Henry Peterson of Cincinnati, OH, and Jack Swift of Swift's, Dallas, TX, all well known and knowledgeable AVSA growers. Right now a two-year project is under way at Penn State to test gamma irradiation, to do research on pollination methods and seed production, and to do further research on treatment with chemical mutagen. The USDA at Beltsville, MD, is carrying on a program of testing under various light intensity, this project having been undertaken because of the energy shortages and costs involved. The Ohio State project of radiating leaves to determine effects of thermal neutron on resulting plantlets is at a standstill at present but is expected to be continued at a later date . . . Pauline Bartholomew hoping she didn't cause too much confusion in her article, "A Terrarium Goes to Convention", in which she identified Emerald Mound as *Lycopodium* when it is actually a member of the *Selaginella* family, *S. kraussiana brownii*, dwarf, tuft-forming, emerald green; good bush-effect in a terrarium . . . Irene Fredette of Orange, CT, finding it a little difficult trying to hold a full-time job, hybridize and grow commercially. She says: "I find in my limited space that the older African violet population must be reduced so I can exercise greater selectivity and produce numerous 'youngsters'. Our garbage cans overflow with rejects and my basement is 99 per cent parent plants with pods and hundreds of seedlings in various stages" . . . We've just had an offer from Susan M. Ferrara of Old Westbury, NY, to help us with our sketches and drawings for the magazine. How many times have I said African violet people are the greatest!! Thanks lots, Susan, we'll be calling on you . . . Mildred Schroeder of Elmwood Park, IL, and vice chairman of publications, admitting she "goofed" in a recent color picture when she called it 'Stage Star'. It should have been 'Step Up'. Both are Richter's originations. "I knew some day I'd goof and get a slide mis-named," she said.

"Now I've done it. In spite of checking and re checking gremlins still get into the works." . . . Evelyn Aceituno of Davis, CA, who holds a bachelor's degree from the University of California in design with a minor (but major interest) in plant science and environmental horticulture, wishing her family and her husband's family wouldn't consider her a plant authority just because of her interest and her background . . . Friends just learning that Dorothy Gray has no difficulty in moving violet leaves long distances. All she does is make holes in long, raw white potatoes and inserting the end of the leaf petioles into the holes and placing the potatoes in a styrofoam picnic food cooler. "In this way they have the needed moisture and are completely insulated from the heat in the summer when it gets terrifically hot", she explained . . . Have you ever heard of a "Parlor Show"? It's a mini show that members of the African Violet Society of Vancouver, Canada, hold quite regularly to give both old and new growers opportunity to learn or improve their skill at preparing plants for shows. The "Parlor Show" is held in a member's home and everything is carried out just like a regular African Violet Show. Violets must be in standard pots, no props or collars permitted, no fancy or flare pots permitted; no labels on side of pot; name of plants and grower's name on bottom of pot with masking tape; name stakes provided by club; entry clerk on hand to make out entry cards; plants judged and ribbons awarded; and in some cases prizes for Best in Show in novice, amateur and advanced amateur sections. Sounds like fun, doesn't it? . . . Have you seen this item in print? Delia Symonds handed it to me at the Boston convention: "Violet watchers on the Island of Kauai in the Hawaiian chain have discovered a violet EIGHT feet tall!" . . . Flora Stevens of Kent, OH, wanting AVSAers to know that the recently registered trademark "Nutriculture" by Plant Marvel Laboratories of Chicago has necessitated the adoption of another name for the special cultural methods and the special equipment for raising African violets and other plants which she has been advocating since 1969. Her system is based upon the principles of aggregate-hydroponics and is to be known as "The Stevens System of Houseplant Hydroponics". She pointed out that this system has no connection with any plant food or plant supply manufacturer . . . The Upper Pinellas AVS concluding their 1974-75 club year with an installation luncheon at which time Mrs. Charles J. Bird took over as the new president.



# Columnists At Workshop

AVSA members at the Boston convention were able to meet with magazine columnists and learn why and how their columns are written for each issue of the magazine — and what columnists want them to do.

Helen Freie, Affiliate chairman, urged Affiliate representatives and officers to co-operate with her more fully, to pay attention to deadlines, and to read her column in each magazine. She commended those Affiliates who were prompt in getting their show reports in and their dues in on time.

Adele Tretter told of the steps necessary in registering an African violet. She urged growers to send in the names and descriptions of their new hybrids for inclusion in the annual Master Variety List.

Gene Garner explained how the AVSA Library works and asked the full cooperation of individuals and Affiliates in getting the slide programs back on time and in good condition to the Knoxville office. She urged them to read the June Magazine for information on the Library and Library material available to AVSA members.

Here's what Ellie Bogin, the "Mini-Mam" had to say:

In the miniature and semiminature column, I endeavor to keep the growers informed on the culture essential to good miniature growing and the newest aids and methods that would be of help to them. I try to keep them abreast of all the latest cultivars and their performances as judged by the Miniature Committee, which consists of five people, all growing under different conditions.

The column is there to answer all questions relating to the miniatures, semiminatures and the new tiny trailers. I try to solve all problems presented to me and if I can't, I call on more knowledgeable people.

I am interested in receiving the names of the miniature, semiminature and tiny trailers show winners so that I can let the readers know which plants have performed that well in other areas.

I look forward to the mail and the personal comments. If there is any phase of miniature growing that you would like covered a little more thoroughly, please write to me. It is only by your letters that I know how you like the column and what you want to know.

Concerning the Beginner's Column, Ann Richardson had this to say:

As the column indicates by its name, it is written for beginners for the purpose of helping them, firstly, to be able to grow African violets and, secondly, to enable them to grow better African

violets.

I try to give you the essentials without too many frills for fear I will confuse you, yet I must give you the really important details, otherwise you would not have the full story. If you are well enough advanced to want more you can always read what others have to say elsewhere in the magazine.

I'd like your suggestions on how to help you beginners more and also some advice as to what subjects you would want covered in the future. Many of you have written me notes of appreciation, for which I thank you.

Anne Tinari, who writes the "Question Box" said:

I'd like to give you a factual, quick history of the "Question Box." In the March AVSA magazine Volume 3, No. 3 in 1950 (approximately 25 years ago) an article appeared by Mrs. Laura Littig of Davenport, Iowa, on something new. Her explanation was she would edit a column, sort of a Golden Rule Corner, where readers helped each other, questions to be published sent in by members and their answers would be published in the following issue. The column was to be called the "Question Box." She was indeed our first Question Box Editor.

Mrs. Littig held this post until March 1953 at which time Mrs. Lois Mienhan of Binghamton, New York, took over as editor of the Question Box, a dear friend whose friendship I have enjoyed over the years. Her column continued most interestingly over the next five years, I was one of her ardent readers.

January 16, 1959 I received a letter advising me Lois must resign due to illness and would I accept the post. I hesitated in answering knowing full well the great responsibility and time that must be devoted to an assignment of this nature. In the meantime, a member of the magazine staff was sent to get my reply in person. I still hesitated. With a young family and some business responsibilities, it was difficult to say yes. Finally I agreed to do it for one year. However, in the next few weeks I received a very large box of stationery with material and the title editor of the Question Box as big as life enough to last me for at least five years. That meant only one thing . . . "get going Anne, times a' wasting." The date was March, 1959.

After meeting our present editor we put our heads together, discussed ideas, and stream-lined a more efficient working way of doing the column. Now after 16 years and a few changes the column in the September issue will be my 70th column.

# SHOWS AND JUDGES

NOTE: All rules changes relating to shows, judges and judging will become effective October 1, 1975.

## RULE I SHOW PROCEDURE

- A. An African violet show should have the following committees: General Show, Staging, Schedule, Entries, Classification, Publicity, Judges, Hospitality, Clean-up, Properties.
- B. For duties of above committees, see the AFRICAN VIOLET HANDBOOK FOR JUDGES AND EXHIBITORS:

## RULE II GENERAL SHOW RULES

- A. All varieties will be accepted in the specimen classes of convention shows except in the collection class which is limited to registered varieties, all of which must be of the same type, either standard, miniature, semiminature, or trailers, either standard or miniature.
- B. Plants for specimen classes, seedlings, and those in the unusual, novel or decorative containers must have been in the possession of the exhibitor at least three months, and must be planted in the container.
- C. Specimen plants in amateur and commercial classes shall be single crown except plants in the species and trailer classes which may be multiple crown.
- D. All plants with suckers shall be disqualified from single crown classes.
- E. Seedlings (never before exhibited at an AVSA convention show) are to be grown from seed by the exhibitor or rights released by hybridizer.
- F. Pots or containers for specimen plants should be in proportion to the size of the plant. Any shape of pot for specimen entries will be permitted in convention shows but pots must be uniformly covered. Local show committees have the authority to make their own rule as to type of pot permitted.
- G. No special labels will be allowed on plants in the show.
- H. No flared top pots, supports or collars will be permitted under foliage.
- I. There shall be classes for commercial exhibitors in horticulture and they shall not enter amateur classes. They may enter the design classes.
- J. The height, width and depth of niches for all design classes must be stated in the schedule.
- K. A card must accompany all entries in design classes giving the names of varieties used, together with description of all other materials. This rule will be included in convention schedules. It should be followed in affiliate shows, if possible, but is not mandatory.
- L. In arrangement sections, some classes using fresh cut African violet blossoms, with or without other cut plant material must be included. The schedule may also include classes in which only African violet foliage is featured with or without other plant foliage.
- M. In affiliate shows, judges will be permitted to use National Council scales of points for judging any classes in the design division for which AVSA does not have a scale of points.
- N. If AVSA collection awards are offered in an affiliate show, all AVSA members will be eligible to compete unless there is a rule in the schedule stating that it is limited to the affiliate members.
- O. In affiliate shows, all schedules must include a rule that only blue ribbon plants and designs are eligible for any special awards.

- P. At convention shows commercial and amateur exhibitors will be permitted to dismantle their displays after the show closes on Friday.
- Q. For rules covering Society Awards, see Awards.

## RULE III COMMERCIAL SHOW RULES

- A. General: Same rules and regulations apply as for amateur entries where applicable, such as time for entries, time for dismantling, etc.
- B. No colored lights which distort or enhance the color will be allowed on commercial displays at convention shows.
- C. Specimen Plant Class: Commercial Horticulture Division.
  1. Entries are open to all AVSA commercial members who do not have display table entries.
  2. An exhibitor may enter any number of African violets, species, or other gesneriads but only one plant of the same variety in this class.
  3. Any number of seedlings may be entered provided they have been originated by the exhibitor or released rights given in writing.
- D. Collection Class: Rules governing AVSA collection class awards apply.
  1. Entries are open to all commercial members who do not have a display table entry.
- E. Display Tables (for plants only, not for merchandise)
  1. Entries are open to all commercial members who do not have an entry in commercial horticulture division.
  2. Each display table shall contain not less than 15 and not more than 25 plants. Three miniatures or semiminatures shall count as one specimen plant and be judged as one unit.
  3. The display must be predominately (at least 75%) African violets.
  4. Other gesneriads may be included in the 25 plants and will be judged.
  5. All plants must be single crown plants except species and trailers.
  6. No other plant material such as ivy or philodendron may be used in decorating or staging the display.
  7. Specimen plants will be merit judged by AVSA scale of points for specimen plants.
  8. Each plant entered in competition for New Introduction award must be labeled designating it as such; new introduction, seedling, etc. These plants will be judged by the AVSA scale for seedlings.
  9. Entries for New Introduction award must have been originated by the exhibitor or released rights given in writing and not previously shown at an AVSA convention.
  10. The host group will provide three-tiered tables in the show room for commercial display table entries. Tables will be uniform in size, cover, and sign for commercial names.
  11. The Best Commercial Display shall be determined by the exhibitor who received the highest number of points accumulated as follows: blue rosette, 15 points; red rosette, 13 points; white rosette, 10 points; blue ribbon, 5 points, red ribbon, 3 points; white ribbon, 1 point.
  12. Sheets will be prepared for judges to record points won and total to show how trophies are determined for Best Display Table.

#### RULE IV DEFINITIONS

**Amateur grower:** One who grows African violets for pleasure and not as a business. Also may be known as one who pays individual membership dues.

**Bloom Stalk:** A spray of blossoms on a stem that grows between the leaves.

**Bubble bowl:** A transparent container either enclosed showing a bubble at the top or open at the top having a design under water. Do not deduct points if air bubbles are present. This shall be an entry in arrangement classes.

**Bud:** An unopened or partly open blossom. In a flower show buds cannot qualify as blossoms except in seedlings, sports and mutants.

**Collection:** A group of specimens, minimum of three plants, judged for its horticultural value. Number of potted plants may vary from 3 to 6 depending on whether they are standard or dwarf.

**Commercial grower:** All persons or firms who advertise consistently and/or sell one thousand (1,000) or more African violet plants or leaf cuttings annually or who manufacture or advertise for sale, fertilizer, disease and insect control materials, equipment, tools or any other merchandise pertaining to or applicable to growing African violets.

**Condition:** The physical growth of a plant at the time it is judged.

**Cultivar:** Named horticultural variety as distinguished from a natural variety of a species.

**Disbud:** To remove buds or bud stems in order to hold back the blossoms opening until a later period, such as at exhibition time.

**Dish garden:** A planting in an open type container planted in soil. It may be planted in clear glass, dishes, or any other type of container but it must not have a cover.

**Display:** Usually an exhibit covering an exact area of floor space, planned for decorative effect and cultural perfection and judged as such.

**Disqualify:** To remove an entry from consideration of the judges because of some defect which is the exhibitor's fault or did not conform to schedule. When time permits, the reason for disqualification should be written on a card and placed by entry.

**Eliminate:** To remove an entry from consideration of the judges which for some reason (disease, etc.) would have little chance to win an award.

**Enlarged pistils:** Varieties showing early formation of enlarged pistils while the blossoms are still fresh but have not dropped, are not to be considered as seed pods.

**Entry:** A single plant or unit before it is placed in a specific class in the show.

**Exhibit:** Once an entry is accepted by the classification committee it becomes an exhibit. This also applies to educational exhibits entered for non-competitive purposes.

**Foliage:** The leaf of a plant.

**Geneva varieties:** Only those with white edge around the blossom.

**Hybrid:** A plant grown from seed as a result of breeding or cross pollinating different varieties or species.

**Miniature plant:** The average size mature plant may be up to 6 inches across; blossoms can be any size, foliage small. They are prolific bloomers producing 6 - 12 blossoms per plant.

**Multicolored blossom:** Those with two or more colors.

**Niche:** A recessed space. No part of the plant material should touch the sides or back, neither must it extend beyond the limits of the box.

**Pedice:** The stem supporting a single flower in a cluster.

**Peduncle:** The main stem in a flower cluster.

**Petiole:** The part of the plant between the leaf and stalk, usually called the stem.

**Seedling:** A plant grown from seed of an original plant.

**Semidouble blossom:** A blossom having more than five petals, such as an extra crest or tuft at the center of the blossom, but less than a full row of secondary petals.

**Semiminiature plant:** The average size mature plant may be up to eight inches across; leaf and blossom size optional; may be large or small. Prolific bloomers, 6 - 20 blossoms per plant.

**Shadow box:** A recessed space with a complete frame such as a picture frame, with a light within the box. There are two types of shadow boxes: one in which the shadows are projected on the background. The other type has shadows silhouetted on a translucent foreground.

**Sport or Mutant:** Plants which differ in some characteristics from the parent.

**Standard African Violet Show:** One sponsored by one or more AVSA Affiliates, conforming to AVSA requirements as set forth in the scale of points for judging a Standard African Violet Show; not a violet section of a show sponsored by a garden club, horticultural society, other plant society, exposition or fair.

**Sucker:** The beginning of a new plant which forms near the base of the plant or in the axils where the petioles join the main stem of the plant. Some bud stems form with small leaves, but by the time four leaves show without evidence of a bud, it is a sucker.

**Terrarium:** A planting in a transparent container with the top covered, in which plants are grown in soil instead of water. This shall be an entry in artistic plantings.

**Two-tone:** Light and dark values of the same color.

**Variegated foliage:** Plants with foliage having a combination of two or more of the following colors — white or light green, rose, red, wine, coppery pink, cream, chartreuse and dark green.

**Variety:** Plants with characteristics which remain the same for a group of plants in the same family or genera. Any group of lower rank than a species.

#### RULE V JUDGING POLICY

- A. Specimen plant classes shall be judged by accredited AVSA judges. National Council judges may serve on panels for judging design classes and/or the Standard Show Award.
- B. Three judges should serve in each panel or group of judges.
- C. In judging specimen plants, no special consideration will be given any particular method of lighting used in their culture.
- D. For the gesneriad section at convention shows, the section shall be checked for proper labeling and identification before judging.
- E. If possible include at least one gesneriad judge in the panel for judging gesneriad classes other than African violets.
- F. Buds are not considered as blossoms in judging a specimen plant, except in judging seedlings, sports and mutants.
- G. Points necessary to win ribbons (according to Scale of Points).
  1. Blue ribbon . . . . . 90 - 100 points
  2. Red ribbon . . . . . 80 - 89 points
  3. White ribbon . . . . . 70 - 79 points
- H. In case of a tie on blue ribbons for sweepstakes, count red ribbons, if a tie still exists, then count white ribbons.
  - I. The scale of points used to judge specimen plants in the commercial division will be the same as that used for specimen plants in the amateur division for AVSA shows.

#### RULE VI SCALES OF POINT

(A scale of points allows exhibitors and judges to work from the same standard and secures greater uniformity in judging).

A. Specimen plants	
1. Leaf pattern or form (symmetry of plant) . . .	30
2. Floriferousness (quantity of fresh bloom according to variety) . . . . .	25
3. Condition (cultural perfection; freedom from disease, insects, marred foliage and spent blossoms) . . . . .	20
4. Size and type of bloom (according to variety) . . . . .	15
5. Color of bloom (according to variety) . . . . .	10
	<u>100</u>

NOTE: In order to help judges estimate points, the following information is given to better evaluate the number of points to take off. This is a guideline.

Under floriferousness—1¼ points deducted per blossom for plants not having enough blossoms according to size of plant.

Under condition—deduct points on the following: marred, broken or damaged leaves, 1 point each; seed pods, 1 point each; over or under potting, 3 points; spent blossoms, 1¼ points each.

Under size and type of bloom—deduct points if a variety classified as single, semi-double or double is not blooming true to variety.

Specimen African Violet Trailers:

Form (according to variety) . . . . .	25
Floriferousness . . . . .	25
Condition . . . . .	25
Size and type of blossoms . . . . .	15
(according to variety)	
Color of blossoms . . . . .	10
(according to variety)	<u>100</u>

B. Seedlings, Sports, and Mutants

1. Leaf pattern or form (symmetry of plant) . . . . .	20
2. Floriferousness (buds count if large enough to show color, they indicate potential number of blossoms the plant will produce) . . . . .	25
3. Size of bloom (medium to large) . . . . .	15
4. Condition . . . . .	10
5. Color of bloom . . . . .	10
6. Improvement or different from any named variety . . . . .	20
	<u>100</u>

C. Plants in Unusual, Novel or Decorative containers.

1. Leaf pattern or form . . . . .	25
2. Floriferousness . . . . .	20
3. Relation to container . . . . .	15
4. Condition . . . . .	15
5. Size and type of bloom . . . . .	15
6. Color of bloom . . . . .	10
	<u>100</u>

D. Design classes.

1. Plantings: Naturalistic or Woodland Scenes, Terrariums, Dish Gardens, etc.	
a. Design and arrangement of planting . . . . .	40
b. Suitability of material . . . . .	25
c. Condition . . . . .	15
d. Color combination . . . . .	10
e. Distinction . . . . .	10
	<u>100</u>
2. African violet arrangements	
a. Design . . . . .	35
b. Color combination . . . . .	20
c. Distinction and originality . . . . .	15
d. Relation to container . . . . .	10
e. Condition . . . . .	10
f. Suitability of combination of all material	10
	<u>100</u>

E. Yearbooks

NOTE: Yearbooks entered in a show should conform to all rules and meet all requirements. Material should be orderly, concise and specific. Judges must point score each book to determine which books have just fulfilled the requirements and which are superior.

(All yearbooks disqualified if they exceed maximum size 5½ x 8½ inches).

(Points shown in brackets indicate how total points are divided)

1. Cover . . . . .	5
All covers must be the same as the one sent for competition.	
a. Design: All elements and principles considered. Scale and proportion of decoration and lettering important in relation to size of cover. Clear and legible lettering appropriate to decoration . . . . .	(1)
b. Distinction (well executed). Originality (fresh approach, new appeal) . . . . .	(1)
c. Design related to violets, program theme or locale of affiliate . . . . .	(1)
d. Identification: Club name (½); City (½); State (½); Year (½) . . . . .	(2)
2. Title Page . . . . .	5
a. Organization date . . . . .	(1)
b. AVSA affiliation(s) . . . . .	(1)
c. AVSA affiliation date . . . . .	(1)
d. Number of club members . . . . .	(1)
e. Number of AVSA members . . . . .	(1)
3. Other Pages . . . . .	10
a. Index page (see 4a)	
b. Club roster with complete mailing address and phone number: Name (½); street or box number (¼); city (¼); state (½); zip (¼); phone number (¼); Asterisk before AVSA members name (1). A note may precede list stating that all addresses are for (city and/or state), unless otherwise listed. Such note may include zip code if all or most members have the same zip code. This permissible to reduce amount of printing . . . . .	(3)
c. AVSA names and addresses an affiliate needs: Name (¼); street or box number (¼), city and state (¼), zip (¼), for each of the following:	
AVSA President . . . . .	(1)
Affiliate Chairman . . . . .	(1)
Best Varieties Compiler . . . . .	(1)
Knoxville office . . . . .	(1)
d. Club officers . . . . .	(1)
e. Club committee chairmen . . . . .	(1)
f. Club AVSA representative . . . . .	(1)
4. Functional Quality of Yearbook . . . . .	5
a. Index page for easy reference, arrangement in orderly and logical manner, complete, concise . . . . .	(¼)
b. Durable cover and pages to withstand normal use; suitable binding in appropriate color, permitting book to open fully (1¼)	
c. Neatness: deduct points for misspelling, poorly trimmed pages, cover too large for inside pages or vice versa, corrections, poor page spacing, poor margins, crowded appearance, blurred printing or painting . . . . .	(1¼)
d. Beauty: uniform and attractive printing, paging, spacing. Good color correlation in cover, inside pages, printing and binding . . . . .	(1¼)
5. Programs - minimum of 7 study program meetings . . . . .	35
Up to 5 points will be given for each subject	

covered of the required minimum of 7 programs. The goal for an ideal affiliate (club) should include at least seven meetings with educational programs. Some meetings without programs may be scheduled for tours or special activities. However, when the affiliate incorporates a program with a special event, points would be given for a better schedule.

Programs may be member participation, guest speaker, slides, or AVSA magazine review. For each meeting, the ideal yearbook would list WHEN, time and date; WHERE, place; WHAT, title of the program subject; WHO, speakers name and if a guest; or for a workshop - a panel leader; for social event - a committee chairman, for a slide program - the title of the program and the person who will present it; for a tour - where, when and the committee chairman. "To be announced later" or "Guest speaker" without giving the name, or "Slide program" without the subject title, points would be deducted. Prepared material such as a library program is educational and such programs receive full points. However, points may be deducted for lack of member participation and lack of originality if the majority of programs consist of prepared material.

If a theme is used, it should prevail in the majority of meetings without monotonous repetition.

Both programs and projects should be related to violets.

A balanced program would consist of subjects under the following subdivisions:

1. Culture topics
2. Grooming
3. Propagation
4. Pests and diseases
5. Preparation for an affiliate show
6. Judging or analysis
7. Decorative use of violets
8. Keeping abreast of violet progress

Permissible short cuts to reduce amount of printing:

Uniform meeting time, list once (may be given on title page)

If meetings are held at one place, list once. If place varies "in the home of the host or hostess" may be listed once and it is not necessary to list address since this is in the roster. List names of host or hostess for meeting.

6. Public Display of Violets . . . . .10

Give date, description, location, member participation, AVSA judged show by affiliate; exhibit or non judged display; clinic, workshop or educational display for public.

Membership participation in convention, regional, state or council standard African violet show or in the violet section of a show sponsored by a garden club, horticultural society, other plant society or Fair, etc.

AVSA judged standard show is preferable and should receive full (10) points. If affiliates membership is small, a good AVSA promotional display may be given consideration.

7. Project(s) Supporting AVSA . . . . .10

a. Donations to AVSA Boyce Edens Research Fund and, or to AVSA Booster Fund . (6)

b. AVSA magazine subscription to public library, school or horticultural library . . . . . (2)

c. Other AVSA proposed continuing projects; violet therapy, education, clinics - with follow up program on care of violets . . . . . (2)

Projects are action taken to obtain objectives. These projects may be one or many and can be continuing or new. Projects are given points when the yearbook describes what and when, or for discussion or reports at meetings. Judges consider membership participation, the number of times the project concerns the members, whether the project promotes AVSA objectives. All affiliate projects should be listed in the yearbook and reports may be given on continuing projects.

8. Percentage of membership who are AVSA Members . . . . .10  
(2e divided by 2d, 100 percent equals 10 points)

9. Quality of programs according to AVSA objective(s) . . . . .5

Objectives are ideals expressed in words. Judges will evaluate for depth of programs. Emphasis will be on quality of study. De-emphasis on meetings devoted to parties or to subjects not related to violets or other gesneriads.

a. Clarity of program presentation - WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE given. Originality and distinction. Unity of programs by a theme correlated in cover, program topics and roll call responses . . . . . (2)

b. Evaluation of depth of study. Projects covered in programs add depth. Majority of programs should conform to goals for ideal affiliate programs - minority devoted to social events. Member participation is important. Points for more than 7 study programs or subjects covered in extra ways . . . . . (3)

10. Quality of projects according to AVSA objectives . . . . .5

Emphasis on value of AVSA project(s) and depth of member participation. Note where meeting program pertains to project and if description, location and member participation is given. Contributions should be meaningful and related to violets in particular and/or horticulture in general. No points for projects unrelated to violet therapy, philanthropy, education or horticulture. No points for projects concerned with leaf exchange between members. Project points given for club contests in growing and or showing violets.

Standard African Violet Show

1. Theme & Schedule . . . . .8

a. Originality & suitability of theme (4)

b. Clear & specific schedule . . . . . (4)

2. Staging . . . . .20

a. Originality . . . . . (7)

b. Practicality . . . . . (5)  
(spacious displays, wide aisles, legible signs, ample lighting)

c. Unity . . . . . (4)  
(uniformly covered containers & tables neatness, harmonious color and balance)

d. Beauty . . . . . (4)  
(outstanding view from entrance)

3. Horticulture Division . . . . .30

a. Quality of specimens . . . . . (10)

b. Number of specimens . . . . . (8)

(Clubs: average of 4 per person according to total membership. Councils,

State or Regional Societies: average 2 per person according to the organization's total membership)  
 c. Correct & legible labeling . . . . . (7)  
 d. Percentage of club exhibiting . . . (5)  
 (based on 1/2 of membership)

(Councils, State or Regional Societies: 1/2 of membership based on the total number of members of all clubs which compose the councils, state or regional societies)

- 4. Design Division . . . . .20
  - a. Quality . . . . . (8)
  - b. Interpretation of schedule . . . . (7)
  - c. Distinction & originality . . . . (5)
- 5. Educational Objectives . . . . .12
  - a. Educational display . . . . . (8)
  - b. AVSA information . . . . . (4)
- 6. AVSA Awards . . . . .10
  - a. Entries for AVSA Collection Awards . . . . . (5)
  - b. Gold Rosette (if awarded) . . . . (3)
  - c. Purple Rosette (if awarded) . . . (2)

100

The following are some of the points to consider in judging for the Standard Show green rosette:

2a—Originality of staging includes backgrounds, color combinations used, methods of staging exhibits, tags, variety names, type of cards for classification and divisions. The overall picture of the show should be harmonious with the theme.

3a—To figure points earned for horticultural specimens:  
 First: multiply number of entries by 3.  
 Second: count points of ribbons awarded - blue (3), red (2), white (1).  
 Add these points together.  
 Third: divide results of step 2 by step 1.  
 Fourth: multiply answer of step 3 by 10.

**EXAMPLE:**

(1)	200 entries x 3	=	600
(2)	75 blues	=	225
	35 reds	=	70
	25 whites	=	25
		=	320
(3)	320 divided by 600 =		.533
(4)	.533 multiplied by 10 =		5.33 total points earned

4a—For design division use the same formula as for 3a except that in step 4 the answer is multiplied by 8 instead of 10.

5a—Points should be given to the extent the display has been developed and expressed.

5b—AVSA information may be staged separately or be a part of the educational display. AVSA magazines should be attractively displayed.

6a—If at least one entry conforms to AVSA rules for this collection the 5 points will be given even though no rosette was awarded.

All judges should sign their names and addresses on the point-score sheet for the Standard African Violet Show Award.

Before judging begins the show chairman must have all required information filled in on the point-score sheet for evaluating for the rosette award.

If this information is not available, judges are not required to judge for this award.

Do not give this award just because the club is hoping to win. All groups that apply expect to receive it, but judges should award only when it is actually earned.

**RULE VII JUDGING SCHOOLS**

- A. A judging school will be held in any section where there is sufficient interest provided a qualified teacher can be secured to teach the class.
- B. Rules for local chairmen of judging schools:
  - 1. Each group holding a judging school will have a local chairman whose duties will be complete supervision of the school regarding time, location, registration fee charged and expenses, and any other arrangements necessary for the school.
  - 2. The local chairman will send to the AVSA Shows and Judges Chairman for application blanks on which to register the school. The school must be registered with the AVSA Chairman for at least two months from the date the application is received. No judging school will be approved for enrollment of less than 5 AVSA members.
  - 3. The Society recommends that the course and examination be held on different days. However, if not possible, allow a study period before the examination is held. The examination must be held within one week after the class is taught. At the close of the class each student will fill out an evaluation sheet of the teacher. The local chairman shall mail the evaluation sheets to the AVSA Chairman.
  - 4. If the local chairman takes the examination, someone else should be secured to proctor the examination and mail the papers to the teacher.
  - 5. The expenses which shall be paid by the local group shall include the teacher's fee, travel and hotel expenses. Also reimbursement to teacher for printing examination questions, point-score sheets and mailing examination papers to students.

**RULE VIII JUDGES**

- A. The Society will hold a course for qualifying judges at each AVSA convention.
- B. Only AVSA members are eligible to hold a qualified judging school certificate.
  - 1. Judges are required to grow at least 25 African violet plants consisting of 15 registered varieties, and must continue to meet this requirement as long as they remain judges.
- C. To be eligible for a certificate a student must:
  - 1. When a judging school is held for just one day, the student must attend the entire session to be eligible to take the examination. If the school is held for more than one day, the student must attend at least one day to be eligible to take the examination.
  - 2. Make a grade of 70 or above on the written examination.
  - 3. Point score judge 3 African violet plants as a part of the examination.
    - a. As a part of the 10 questions, 10 points will be given if the student's score on all 3 plants meets the requirement of 5 points above or below the teacher's score; 7 points if the score on two plants meets the requirements; 3 points if the score on one plant meets the requirements.
    - b. Comments are part of the requirements for point-score judging.
    - c. Students point-score judge individually, not in panels.
  - 4. Present to the teacher his membership card showing he is an AVSA member in good standing.

- D. Certificates expire 3 years from date of issue.
- E. Certificates may be renewed by taking a judging school course at any AVSA convention or local school approved by AVSA. To become Lifetime Judges, see requirements for such certificates.
- F. A certificate automatically expires if the judge is not an AVSA member in good standing. However, if AVSA membership is renewed within 3 months such judge will be eligible to resume judging.
- G. Judges do not charge for judging shows other than traveling and hotel expenses.

#### RULE IX LIFETIME JUDGES

- A. AVSA will issue lifetime certificates to qualified judges who have observed the following rules and regulations:
  1. Shall have been a qualified AVSA judge for at least 6 years.
  2. Attended at least 3 judging courses approved by AVSA, making a grade of 85 or above on each of them.
  3. Judged 5 African violet shows sponsored by any local club, affiliate or the convention show. At least 3 of the above must be judged by panels.
  4. Shall keep informed of all new rules pertaining to shows and judges published in THE AFRICAN VIOLET MAGAZINE and latest edition of the Judges Handbook.
  5. Shall always grow at least 50 plants consisting of at least 25 registered varieties.
  6. A judge whose certificate has expired may renew. After the renewed certificate has been effective for 1 year, such judge may apply for lifetime certificate. Qualifications earned before the certificate expired may be included when submitting qualifications for the lifetime certificate.
  7. A fee of \$1.00 must be submitted to AVSA Shows and Judges Chairman for a set of questions with spaces for answers. The fee will cover printing and mailing expense. Notice of application will be in the September issue of THE AFRICAN VIOLET MAGAZINE. Answers must be mailed by November 1 of the current year for three consecutive years, after which answers will be required every third year. Passing grade of 93 will be required.
    - a. Failure to submit review examination will automatically invalidate certificate.
    - b. Lifetime judges whose grade on review drops below the required 93 will be dropped as lifetime judges. They will be permitted to retain a status of qualified judge for a one year period. After this one year period, they may apply again with review questions. Should they fail a second time, they will go back to regular judge status for one year, after which they will be required to attend a judging school every three years.
    - c. Judges will be permitted to use THE AFRICAN VIOLET MAGAZINE or Judges Handbook in answering questions.
  8. Upon receiving a grade of 93 on first review questions a permanent gold lifetime certificate will be issued. Thereafter a regular certificate will be issued showing the date when the next questions will be due.
  9. If attending AVSA convention, they shall serve as judges or clerks if needed.
  10. When applying for lifetime certificate, the following information, including \$1.00 fee for the questions, must be submitted to the AVSA Shows and Judges Chairman:
    - a. List of all AVSA judging school courses taken, grade, teacher, date, city and state of

- each class.
- b. Names of clubs of 5 shows judged, also dates, city and state.
- c. For each show judged (with the exception of convention shows) schedules, signed by local judges chairman, must be submitted.
- d. No information, schedules or other material will be returned unless a stamped envelope is sent.

- 11. Lifetime certificates will be revoked if judges fail to follow the rules and regulations of the Society.

#### RULE X TEACHERS

##### A. Requirements:

1. To be eligible for a teacher's certificate, an applicant must have:
  - a. Been an AVSA member for 5 years.
  - b. Completed three judging school courses, making a grade of 90 or above on each, over a five year period.
  - c. Served as a qualified judge for at least 3 shows, prior to the last three years before applying.
2. The applicant shall compile a list of 25 questions and answers, based on information in the Judges Handbook. Answers are to be given in the applicant's own words with the exception of rules which may be quoted verbatim. When these requirements are satisfactorily completed, and the application approved, the AVSA Shows and Judges Chairman will issue a teacher's certificate. AVSA Shows and Judges Chairman may revoke a teacher's certificate if the rules are not followed.
3. If AVSA sponsors a class for teachers, they shall attend if possible.
4. Teachers, except those holding lifetime certificates, are required to renew their judges certificates every three years, maintaining a grade of 90 or above on each examination thereafter. AVSA judges certificates may be issued only for a judging school taught by a qualified AVSA teacher.
5. Teachers desiring to become lifetime judges will be required to meet the same qualifications as other lifetime judges.

##### B. Rules:

1. Upon receiving a request to teach a school, teachers must submit to AVSA Shows and Judges Chairman for approval, a complete set of the exact questions and answers in the order in which they will be given to the students, at least 4 weeks prior to the date of the class. These questions shall be returned within two weeks from date submitted for approval.
2. There shall be nine main questions with either 2-5-6 or 10 parts under at least 5 or 6 of the questions and one question allotted for point scoring. A different set of questions must be submitted for each class.
3. Teachers must check AVSA membership card of every student taking course and examination at each school held to ascertain if each student is a member in good standing. Students who are not AVSA members may take the course but they will not be eligible to receive certification.
4. Teachers will give students a three hour course in lecture work plus the point-score judging which will follow. Teachers will grade papers for each school. It is not necessary for the teacher to hold the examination but the teacher must point-score judge the three plants which the students judge as part of the of the examination. Student point-score judging will be at the close of the lecture period. If the local

chairman serves as proctor of the examination, the chairman will mail the examination papers to the teacher. Teachers may purchase the point-score sheets at \$1.00 per 100 from the AVSA Chairman.

5. Within three weeks after the class is held, the teacher shall mail the AVSA Chairman the roster sheets with point-score sheets and examination papers of three students, one whose grade is 90 or above, one medium and one low grade. The AVSA Chairman will return the examination papers and judges' certificates to the teacher who shall mail them to the students within two weeks.
6. Teachers are permitted to charge a fee of \$15.00 to \$25.00 for each school taught in addition to travel and hotel expenses. Teachers shall also be reimbursed for point-score sheets, printing the examination questions and mailing examination papers to students.
7. When the school is approved, the AVSA Chairman will send roster sheets to the teacher who will return them typed in duplicate with a space between each name. Each student taking the examination, including those who do not receive a passing grade, will be listed by number alphabetically with address and grade. Within three weeks after the class is held, the teacher shall mail the AVSA Chairman the roster sheets with point-score sheets and examination papers of three students, one whose grade is 90 or above, one medium and one low grade. The AVSA Chairman will return the examination papers and judges certificates to the teacher who shall then mail them to the students within two weeks.

#### SOCIETY AWARDS

##### ELIGIBILITY – CONVENTION SHOW AWARDS

- A. Exhibitors in both Amateur and Commercial divisions must be AVSA members in good standing.
- B. Organizations entering yearbooks must be Affiliates.

##### REQUIREMENTS – CONVENTION SHOW AWARDS – AMATEUR DIVISION

- A. Only blue ribbon winners in the entire show will be eligible for special awards.
- B. Plants must be registered varieties published in THE AFRICAN VIOLET MAGAZINE prior to date of convention show to be eligible for Society awards.

##### TYPES OF AWARDS –

###### CONVENTION AMATEUR DIVISION

- A. AVSA Silver Cup to be awarded to best registered variety in designated classes.
- B. Award of Merit Rosette and \$15.00 cash to be awarded to second best registered variety in designated classes.
- C. Honorable Mention Rosette and \$10.00 cash to be awarded to third best registered variety in designated classes.
- D. AVSA Collection Awards:
  1. Gold Rosette Award to be given (when all requirements are fulfilled) to the best collection exhibited as an entry in the class for collections.
  2. Purple Rosette Award to be given (when all requirements are fulfilled) to the second best collection exhibited as an entry in the class for collections.

##### TYPE OF AWARDS –

###### CONVENTION COMMERCIAL DIVISION

- A. Commercial Silver Trophies to be awarded to the

exhibitor of the display tables receiving the 1st, 2nd and 3rd highest number of points and an Honorable Mention Rosette to the exhibitor receiving the 4th highest number of points.

- B. New Introduction Award (plaque) to be awarded to the hybridizer of the best new introduction.
- C. Commercial Silver Cup to be awarded to the exhibitor of the best registered variety exhibited by a Commercial member who does not exhibit in the regular commercial display table section.
- D. AVSA Collection Awards:
  1. Gold Rosette Award to be given (when all requirements are fulfilled) to the best collection exhibited as an entry in the class for collections.
  2. Purple Rosette Award to be given (when all requirements are fulfilled) to the second best collection exhibited as an entry in the class for collections.
- E. Blue, red and white rosettes as merited by competitive judging will be awarded for:
  1. Horticultural Perfection (All plants considered as a group)
  2. Best New Introduction
- F. Blue, red and white ribbons as merited by merit judging will be awarded for entries in commercial horticulture division classes, collection class and for plants on display table entries.
- G. A Pink Rosette will be awarded to the best plant on each commercial display table. This rosette will have no point value and will not be included in accumulation of points as outlined in Commercial Show Rules.

##### AVSA MEMBER SWEEPSTAKES AWARDS

- A. Silver bowls (not exceeding four inches in diameter) to be awarded to the four AVSA members who win the most blue ribbons in specimen classes in shows sponsored by Affiliates during the calendar year from January 1 to December 31 inclusive.
  1. The President or Secretary of the Affiliate must send to the AVSA Awards Chairman by March 1 the following information:
    - a. Name of organization
    - b. Name and address of member
    - c. Number of ribbons won
    - d. Dates and places of shows
  2. In case of a tie, the winner will be selected by a drawing of names.
  3. Winners will be announced at the annual banquet.

##### YEARBOOK AWARDS

- A. Four awards will be given by the Society as follows:
  1. First prize \$15.00
  2. Second prize \$10.00
  3. Third prize \$5.00
  4. Fourth prize \$4.00

##### MISCELLANEOUS AWARDS

- A. Bronze Medal for Horticultural Achievement.
  1. The recipient need not be a member of AVSA.
  2. Two awards, if warranted, may be given, one in the field of scientific effort and one for other horticultural achievement.
  3. This award is not required to be given each year.
- B. Past President's Pin. A special pin designated as "Past President's Pin" will be presented to each AVSA President upon retirement from office. This pin to be selected by the Awards Committee.
- C. A Distinguished Service Certificate may be awarded to Honorary Life Members who have continued to give outstanding service to the Society.
- D. A special wallet card and certificate will be given to all Honorary Life Members.



- E. A purple ribbon may be given at convention shows for special entries or displays such as yearbooks, educational tables, show themes, etc.
- F. On recommendation of the Publications Committee, no more than five President's Citation Certificates, size 5" x 7", may be given for outstanding articles in THE AFRICAN VIOLET MAGAZINE June thru March issues.
- G. A "Continuing Service Award" shall be given only to those persons who have previously received the Honorary One Year membership award. Not more than three may be given per year.
- H. Blue and Red Rosettes for Affiliate magazines or newsletters in two competitive classes: A - 16 pages or less; B - more than 16 pages.

#### AWARD MEMBERSHIPS

See Bylaws, Article II, Section 3.

#### AVSA COLLECTION AWARDS

(Gold and Purple Rosettes)

- A. Awards may be given
  - 1. At annual convention show.
  - 2. At an African violet show which is sponsored by one or more AVSA Affiliates. The award may not be requested for a violet section in a show sponsored by a garden club, horticultural society, other plant society, exposition or fair.
  - 3. If the convention show schedule has classes for the AVSA Collection Awards, the Awards Chairman will have two sets of these awards available for the show.
  - 4. These rosettes shall be the same for local and convention shows.
- B. A collection shall be comprised of three plants, each of a different registered variety.
  - 1. Collection must be exhibited in a separate class in show.
  - 2. Registration number of each variety must be given on point-score form.
- C. Exhibitor must be AVSA member in good standing and must present AVSA membership card as evidence.
- D. Exhibitor may enter only one collection in a show.
- E. Judging
  - 1. Must be by three AVSA judges.
  - 2. Each plant must be point scored.
  - 3. To be eligible for these awards, each plant must score 90 or more points.
  - 4. Gold Rosette will be awarded to best collection.
  - 5. Purple Rosette will be awarded to second best collection.
  - 6. Each plant shall be given the blue, red and white ribbon to which it is entitled and such ribbons will be counted towards sweepstakes.
  - 7. The plants are eligible for any other Special Awards.
  - 8. The entire horticulture section of the show must be judged by AVSA standards and qualified AVSA judges.
  - 9. Judges must present AVSA membership cards and judges' certificates as evidence that they are members and judges in good standing.
- F. Any Affiliate may apply, once during the calendar year from January 1 to December 31 inclusive, for one set of these awards for amateur exhibitors and one set for commercial exhibitors. These awards are available for shows sponsored by an Affiliate or for shows jointly sponsored by two or more Affiliates. These awards are not available for shows if any joint sponsor is not affiliated, or if the same organization is included singly and/or jointly more than once during the year.
  - 1. Affiliate Chairman must be notified 30 days in advance of the local show that the Affiliate requesting these awards is conforming to AVSA requirements.

- a. Two show schedules must accompany the awards.
- 2. Report on awards: The panel of judges shall select one of its members to return the judges' score sheets (whether or not the rosettes are awarded) to the Affiliate Chairman immediately after judging with the following information:
  - a. Names of exhibitors of collections.
  - b. Names of the varieties, including the plant registration number of each.
- 3. If rosettes are not awarded, they shall be returned by the Show Chairman within one week after the close of the show, or a penalty charge of \$2.00 for each rosette shall be made.

#### STANDARD AFRICAN VIOLET SHOW AWARD

(Green Rosette)

Standard Show: One sponsored by one or more AVSA Affiliates, conforming to AVSA requirements as set forth in the scale of points for judging a Standard African violet Show; not a violet section of a show sponsored by a garden club; horticultural society, other plant society, exposition or fair.

##### A. Eligibility

- 1. One or more Affiliates may sponsor a show either singly or jointly and may apply once during the calendar year of January 1 to December 31, for this award. They may also request the AVSA Collection Awards.
- 2. All sponsors must be AVSA members.
- 3. Show must score 90 or more points to receive the award.

##### B. Requirements

- 1. Local Show Chairman shall apply to the AVSA Affiliate Chairman for blank point-score sheets for evaluating Standard African Violet Show.
- 2. The show chairman will receive the score sheet for evaluating the show and green and blue cards to be displayed if one or both of the rosettes are awarded.
- 3. If the green rosette is not won the judges appointed by the judges chairman will return both cards and the score sheet to the Affiliate chairman.
- 4. If the green rosette is awarded, when the Affiliate chairman receives the score sheet, the rosette will be mailed to the show chairman of the Affiliate.
- 5. If the show is eligible to receive the blue rosette, the show chairman will be informed, but the rosette will be presented at the following AVSA convention.
- 6. Two schedules must accompany the application for the award. These schedules must be the same as the judges receive. One schedule must also be included with the point-score sheet which the judges shall mail to the Affiliate Chairman.
- 7. Regardless of the score, the point score sheet showing judges' evaluation of the show shall be mailed by one of the judges to the Affiliate Chairman after completion of judging.
- 8. The results of the evaluation sheet shall be the sole property of the AVSA Affiliate Chairman. However, when a club fails to receive this award the president or show chairman may write to AVSA Affiliate Chairman to learn where it failed.

##### C. Judging

- 1. Shall be judged by AVSA Standard Show scale of points and AVSA scales must be used for judging the entire show.
- 2. There is one exception: In local Affiliate shows, judges will be permitted to use National Coun-

cil scale of points for judging any classes in the Design Division for which AVSA does not have a scale of points.

3. Only qualified AVSA judges will be eligible to judge the specimen classes and all special awards which may be given.
4. National Council judges are permitted to judge arrangement and artistic classes but this is not compulsory. They may also help in judging for the Standard Show Award.
5. Show may be judged by either merit or competitive method of judging.
6. The show chairman shall supply the judges with the following information:
  - a. Number of members exhibiting.
  - b. Number of horticulture entries and number of design entries. Note: two-thirds of the total number of entries must be from the specimen classes.
  - c. Number of blue, red and white ribbons awarded.
  - d. Total membership of group.
7. One judge shall be appointed by the judges chairman for clerical correctness of the form and will be responsible in case of error.

#### STANDARD SHOW ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

- A. Special Blue Rosettes will be awarded at each

AVSA convention to the Affiliates that have won the Standard AVSA Show Award, Green Rosette with at least 95 points during the calendar year from January 1 to December 31 inclusive.

- B. All requirements under horticulture and AVSA objectives, including the number of members exhibiting, the total number of entries and total membership of the group must be clerically correct.
- C. The list of Affiliates winning this award shall be supplied by the Affiliate Chairman to the Awards Chairman not later than March 1.

#### AVSA SWEEPSTAKES AWARD FOR COUNCIL, STATE OR REGIONAL SHOWS

(AVSA member or AVSA non-member)

- A. Councils, State Societies, Regional or Judges Councils pay \$15.00 AVSA dues per year.
- B. An award in silver, polished pewter or other suitable material shall be purchased by the Affiliate chairman and sent to eligible organization upon request for this award, which includes two schedules. They also may apply for the AVSA Collection and Standard Show awards.
- C. This award will be given to the exhibitor winning the most blue ribbons in the horticulture and design classes in one show.
- D. While it is hoped that all winners will be AVSA members, this is not a requirement.

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## *New Scale of Points For Judging Yearbook*

*Mrs. H. Nicholas Hansen,  
Judges Chairman  
708 Wyndale Road  
Jenkintown, PA 19046*

Judging yearbooks for the 1975 convention show in Boston was a most interesting and informative assignment. Sixty-two entries were received. All arrived before the deadline but much to our dismay, three were oversize and had to be disqualified.

Six judges spent two precious Saturdays going over the books. The final selection of the four top winners was extremely difficult because so many of the books were excellent.

The 1976 yearbook judges chairman for the Atlanta convention show yearbook class is Miss Nancy D. Willets, 6115a Pershing Ave., St. Louis, MO 63112. Yearbook entries should be mailed to her postmarked not later than March 1, 1976.

The 1976 yearbook entries will be judged by the revised scale of points published in the *AFRICAN VIOLET HANDBOOK FOR JUDGES AND EXHIBITORS* by Ruth G. Carey, 1975 revision (salmon cover) pages 64 - 67. The scale is also published in the September issue of *THE AFRICAN VIOLET MAGAZINE*. All clubs who entered yearbooks for 1975 received a notice of this change with their score sheets and a notice of this change appeared in the June magazine.

The 1975 judges have two suggestions which may make the committee's assignment easier. The

first is that at least two yearbooks be sent as it is difficult for more than two people to look at a book at the same time. The second suggestion, which would help the chairman, is that a self addressed postal be enclosed with the entry if you wish an acknowledgment of the safe arrival of the books.

The books must soon be sent to the library to be made into the yearbook packets and we'll be sorry to see them go. We are gleaming many helpful ideas for our own yearbook from the interesting programs and workshops, show schedules and bylaws.

All who participated in judging felt that it was truly a most rewarding experience.

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### **Apologies to RIAVS**

Our sincere apologies go to the Rhode Island AVS, Curtis Mason, president, and to Beverly Sweet, publicity chairman, for listing their show date as April 22-23. The date should have read March 22-23. This error caused many magazine readers in that area much disappointment and inconvenience. We are sorry.

## CONVENTION MINUTES

### 29th ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The meeting convened at 8:15 PM in Stanbro Hall, Tuesday, April 22, 1975, at the Statler Hilton Hotel, Boston, MA with President Edith Peterson presiding. President Peterson gave the invocation. Parliamentarian, Mrs. Thomas J. Edmundson, was present. The following officers, directors and standing committee chairmen reported to roll call: Miss Peterson, Mesdames Nelson, Garner, Krogman, Richardson, Crane, Rienhardt, Blair, Burton, Hamilton, Hansen, Lackner, Plaster, Freie, Chase, Lahr, Baker, Tretter, Anderson, Carey. Messrs Hudson, Marshall, Becker, Stone, Watson, Buell, Dixon and Tinari. Present by invitation from the President, having a voice but no vote: Director nominees Mesdames Bogin, Hawley, Merrell and Treasurer nominee Miss Garrity. Also, Mrs. Clarice Bell, Office Manager; Mrs. Grace Foote, Editor, and Mrs. Robert I. Slocomb, Resolutions Chairman. Absent were Mesdames Beattie, Huebscher, Leary, Schroeder, Gillespie, Van Zele and Mr. Richter.

The President appointed the following committee to approve the minutes of this Board: Mesdames Adeline Krogman, Elizabeth Hansen and Millie Blair. Hours were also set for reconvening in the morning and for lunch and dinner breaks.

Reports were given by the President (there was an increase in total membership of 4,235 for the year with 22 new Life Members added to our list); First Vice President; Second Vice President; Third Vice President; Secretary; Treasurer; Affiliate (we have a total of 373 affiliates); Awards (dead-line September 15, 1975); Boyce Edens Reearch (read by Miss Peterson); Commercial Sales & Exhibits; Commercial Activities (not written but reported that the Chairman is working on getting another culture leaflet out); Convention Program (not written - asked for opinion or reaction on (1) Raising program limit expense from \$50 for speaker plus expenses to \$200 for speaker plus expenses for any one program or more if host prefers (2) some advice on protocol with dais seating and introductions (3) workshops - this year we had three one hour programs with one-half hour between on Thursday - (too much or just right?); Convention Time & Place (for 1980 we have an invitation to hold our convention in New Orleans).

A MOTION was made by Dora Baker that we accept the invitation from the First African Violet Society and The New Orleans African Violet Society to hold our convention in New Orleans in 1980. Motion carried.

Mr. Dixon, Chairman of the Finance Committee, presented a report on which were listed the Receipts & Disbursements of AVSA for the period 3/1/74 to 2/28/75 with the estimated and actual figures and the estimated figures for 3/1/75 to 2/29/76, which he explained and which were revised by the various chairmen affected. Reports were made by the following committees: Library (showing a profit); Membership & Promotion; Nominating (see Annual Business Meeting); Plant Registration (a total of 119 new registrations, 23 reservations, 11 renewals and 86 cancellations during the year); Master Variety List: Publication (an attempt is being made to establish a uniform copy guide or style, to improve the quality of material published, to edit and condense material to make the best use of the 72 pages allotted for which recommendations were made); Standing Rules; Research; Shows & Judges; Advertising; Best Varieties (read by Edith Peterson in absence of Madeline Gonzales); Booster (read by Edith Peterson in absence of Dorothy Gray); Miniature and Semiminiature; Office Manager; Editor; Printer.

Mr. Dixon, Chm. Finance Committee (after suggesting that the two ladies leave the room) MOVED that the Office Manager and Editor be given increases in salary (as discussed). Motion carried.

As reports are read and accepted they are filed with Secretary's original copy.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 PM until 9AM Wednesday, April 23, 1975.

x/ Ann Richardson, Secretary

Minutes approved by:

Adeline Krogman  
Elisabeth Hansen  
Millie Blair

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING Wednesday, April 23, 1975

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 AM in Room 436, Statler Hilton Hotel, Boston, MA, by President Peterson. Mrs. Harold Rienhardt gave the invocation. Mrs. T. J. Edmundson, parliamentarian, was present. Members responding to roll call were the same as for Tuesday's meeting except that Mrs. Beattie was present and Mesdames Slocomb and Garrity were absent. The President appointed the same persons to approve the minutes as for yesterday.

Neva Anderson, Chm. Publication Committee, MOVED that the Registration List be a 10-tear list which would eliminate the 1948 original registrations. Motion carried.

Neva Anderson made the following suggestions for revision of Standing Rules:

MOVED that on Page 3, Rule VII F. the words "fiscal year" be stricken out and that we insert instead "June through March issues". Also that we strike out the words "AVSA members" before the words "for outstanding articles". Carried.

MOVED that on page 17, Rule I, B. we strike out "AVSA Representatives" in the November listing. Motion carried.

MOVED that on page 18, Rule VI, B. we strike out "shall be \$3.00 per copy" and insert the words "Shall be \$3.50 per copy" and insert "shall be" following "Vol. 2". Carried.

MOVED that page 36 (or 35 corrected) Rule XIV A.2. "Prepare an annual publication budget and" be stricken. Carried.

Neva Anderson MOVED that Mrs. Grace Foote and Mr. Gus Becker be retained as Editor and Printer for the fiscal year 1975-76. Carried.

Neva Anderson MOVED that AVSA publish Master Variety List, Vol. 3, which would include all of the registered varieties from 1948 up to the date of publication and all varieties that are not registered which have been published since Master Variety List, Vol. 2, to be published as soon as convenient and not later than 1977. Carried.

Adele Tretter made a MOTION that the Registration List be Part II of the magazine as is the supplement for the Master Variety List, so it can easily be removed from the magazine, which would result in a cost of \$2,200 additional. Motion lost.

A review was made of vice presidents and their interest and supervision of committee chairmen (S.R. p. 13, Rule II, III and IV). President Peterson requested copies of all correspondence regarding the same. Also discussed was the use of Booster Fund donations for added color in the magazine and culture folders.

Ellie Bogin, Chm. Classification of Miniatures and Semiminiatures, made a MOTION that we eliminate from Standing Rules, page 38, Rule II A.2. Carried. She also MOVED to have 2,000 copies of a new miniature and semiminiature culture list be made with a selling price of \$2.00 to be advertised in the September magazine. Carried.

## 29th ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING Saturday, April 26, 1975

Gus Becker made a MOTION that we consider additional space available for expansion purposes at the Knoxville office, the additional cost to be \$61.67 per month (about \$720 a year). Motion carried.

Attention was called to the fact that in "Strictly Business" the Zip code for Mrs. Harold Baker should be 55105. The Zip code for Mrs. Thos. J. Edmundson, Parliamentarian, is properly 33319.

The meeting was adjourned at 12 Noon to 1:30 PM in Room 436.

s/ Ann Richardson, Secretary

Minutes approved by:  
Adeline Krogman  
Elisabeth Hansen  
Millie Blair

### AFTERNOON SESSION April 23, 1975

At 1:34 PM the meeting reconvened in Room 436. Attendance was the same as for the morning except that Mrs. Slocomb was present. Mrs. Edmundson, the Parliamentarian, was present.

Adeline Krogman made a MOTION that a guide booklet for AVSA affiliate presidents and AVSA representatives be published, one copy of this booklet to be sent to each affiliate club with the first charter that they receive after the booklet is available. AMENDMENT. Additional copies of this guide booklet may be made available on the payment of \$1 per copy. Amendment carried. Vote on original motion carried.

Estelle Crane made a MOTION that Standing Rules Page 10, Rule XII Convention Expense be stricken and that it be replaced by "Annual Meeting Expenses." Expenses enroute to the Annual Business Meeting for the President, Parliamentarian, Office Manager and Editor shall be paid by AVSA. Registrations and meal functions at the convention shall be paid by the hosts." Carried.

Dora Baker MOVED that we change Standing Rules, page 15, Rule IA. to be deleted and that the present B. becomes A., deleting the first word which is "Other". Motion carried.

Ruth Carey, Chm. of Shows & Judges Committee MOVED that the Board ratify the approval of the Executive Committee to incorporate changes in the Standing Rules as attached and that the new rules and changes be published in the September magazine and become effective in the Judging Rules as of October 1st of this year. Carried.

Frank Tinari, Chm. Research, MOVED that we take the money out of the Boyce Edens Research Fund, if needed, to invite Dr. Richard Craig to speak at the Atlanta Convention on Thursday evening. Motion carried.

Ruth Carey, Chm. of Shows & Judges, MOVED that the judges be permitted to tell a club that they have won the Green Rosette and also when they have won the Blue Rosette, after which the information will be sent to the Affiliate Chairman and the Green Rosette will be mailed and the Blue Rosette will be given at the convention. After considerable discussion it was decided to table this motion.

President Edith Peterson put into MOTION a change in the Bylaws to strike out Article II, Section 2 b. "Associate, etc." to "Joint Membership. Any two persons living in the same household each entitled to all privileges of an individual member except that there shall be only one copy of the magazine or notice of meetings and Bylaws amendments carried therein." Motion lost.

Mr. Dixon reported on the new figures on Receipts & Disbursements for the period 3/1/75 to 2/29/76.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 PM.

s/ Ann Richardson, Secretary

Minutes approved by:  
Adeline Krogman  
Elisabeth Hansen  
Millie Blair

The annual business meeting of the African Violet Society of America, Inc. was called to order at 9:30 AM by President Edith Peterson in Stanbro Hall, Statler Hilton Hotel, Boston, MA. The Parliamentarian, Mrs. Thos. J. Edmundson, was present. The invocation was given by Mrs. Wilda Beattie. The following officers and directors were present: Miss Peterson, Mesdames Nelson, Garner, Krogman, Richardson, Crane, Rienhardt, Blair, Burton, Hamilton, Hansen, Plaster, Beattie, Messrs. Becker, Hudson and Stone. Absent were Mesdames Lackner, Huebscher, Leary and Schroeder, Messrs. Marshall and Richter.

Mrs. Percy F. Crane reported the Treasurer's books have been examined and audited by Needel & Siddall, Certified Public Accountants, and MOVED that the audited statement of cash receipts and disbursements for the fiscal year ended February 28, 1975 be accepted as presented to the Board and be printed in the September issue of THE AFRICAN VIOLET MAGAZINE. Motion carried.

Mrs. Robert Slocomb, Resolutions Committee Chairman, read a Resolution conveying our sincere appreciation and gratitude to the Chairman of the Convention, Miss Florence M. Garrity and to the Vice Chairman, Mr. Jim Cook, and to their entire committee for their very efficient planning and fine organization of the convention; to the Show Chairman, Mrs. M. Y. Leighton and her committee, whose able assistance added much to the success of the convention; to the Hospitality Chairman, Miss Martha C. White and her committee; to our beloved President, Miss Edith V. Peterson, for help in preparation for this convention, for her untiring devotion, loyalty and thoughtfulness to all our members; to our Treasurer, Mrs. Percy Crane, for her years of efficient loyalty to our Society; to the Program Chairman, Mrs. Ross V. Lahr and her assistants for their preparations for educational workshops, for arranging beneficial programs, and for obtaining and scheduling interesting speakers; to the Awards Chairman, Mrs. Joan Van Zele and Mrs. Richard A. Chase and committee, for their competent work in securing the merit awards in acknowledgment of superlative artistic and horticultural accomplishments; to our Chairman of Shows and Judges, Mrs. James B. Carey, for her untiring effort, understanding and loyalty to the AVSA and her committees; to our Time and Place Chairman, Mrs. H. Harold Baker and her committee; to the Commercial Chairman, Mr. Jimmy Watson, and members who participated in the show, and to the amateur exhibitors who contributed to the distinction of the show; to the Executive Board members, the Board of Directors, the Standing Committee Chairmen, and their committees for their devotion and perseverance in the performance of their duties; to our honored guests, Mr. Joseph Hudak, ASIA, Brookline, MA; Richard A. Howard, PhD, Director of Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain, MA; to the newspaper, television and radio personnel for their services in publicizing the convention; to the Manager and his staff of the Statler Hilton Hotel of Boston, MA; for courteous and amiable attention and their consideration for the needs of those members present at the convention; to ALL MEMBERS of our Society who contributed their time and efforts to make a grand success of this our 29th convention; and be it further, Resolved that a copy of this resolution be made a part of the minutes of this convention. The resolutions were adopted.

Mrs. Harold Rienhardt, vice chairman of the Nominating Committee, submitted the following slate of officers for election:

President . . . . . Miss Edith V. Peterson  
First Vice President . . . . . Mrs. Edward A. Nelson  
Second Vice President . . . . . Mrs. Marvin Garner  
Third Vice President . . . . . Mrs. William J. Krogman  
Secretary . . . . . Mrs. Lizeta Tenney Hamilton  
Treasurer . . . . . Miss Florence M. Garrity  
Director . . . . . Mrs. Edward Blair

Director ..... Mrs. Sidney Bogin  
Director ..... Mrs. Frank Burton  
Director ..... Mrs. Charles S. Hawley  
Director ..... Mrs. James Merrell

There being no nominations from the floor, nominations were declared closed. Upon instructions from the President the Secretary repeated the names of those nominated whereupon she was instructed to cast the ballot for those presented and the President declared them duly elected for the following term.

Mrs. W. F. Anderson then conducted a very impressive installation of officers and directors after which she expressed thanks to the retiring officers and directors in which the audience joined.

President Peterson announced the chairmen for the next two conventions as follows:

Atlanta, GA, April 29-30, May 1, 1976, Chm. Mrs. J. A. W. Richardson; Vice Chairman, Mrs. R. M. Pyle, Jr.; Show Chairman, Mrs. Frank S. Huebscher.

St. Louis, MO, April 21-23, 1977, Chm. Mrs. Daniel Dohm, Jr.; Vice Chairman, Mrs. Dana R. Gipson; Show Chairman, Mrs. Jane M. Francis.

The meeting was adjourned SINE DIE at 10:30 AM.

s/ Ann Richardson, Secretary

Minutes approved by:  
Adeline Krogman  
Elisabeth Hansen  
Millie Blair

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING Saturday, April 26, 1975

The meeting of the AVSA Board of Directors was called to order by President Edith Peterson in Stanbro Hall, Statler Hilton Hotel, Boston, MA at 11:10 AM. The Invocation was given by Mr. Frank Tinari. Parliamentarian Mrs. Thomas J. Edmundson was present.

The President appointed Adeline Krogman, Elisabeth Hansen and Millie Blair to approve the minutes of this Board meeting.

The following officers and directors were present: Miss Peterson, Mesdames Nelson, Garner, Krogman, Hamilton, Garrity, Rienhardt, Hansen, Plaster, Beattie, Blair, Bogin, Burton, Hawley, Merrell, Freie, Chase, Lahr, Baker, Tretter, Anderson, Carey. Messrs. Becker, Stone, Watson, Buell and Tinari. Absent were Mmes. Lackner, Huebscher, Leary, Schroeder, Gillespie, Messrs. Richter and Dixon. Present by invitation, having voice but no vote, were Mesdames Bell, Foote, Edmundson, Slocumb and Crane.

President Peterson read new committee appointments and asked for approval. These included Awards, Mrs. Richard A. Chase; Commercial Sales & Exhibits, Mr. Jimmy Watson; Nominating, Mrs. Harold Rienhardt; Booster Fund, Mrs. W. M. Plaster; Standing Rules, Mrs. Robert Hamilton; Cumulative Index, Mrs. James Merrell and Public Relations, Mrs. Helen Van Zele.

Motion made by Albert Buell that the Becker Printing Company be authorized to print 500,000 culture pamphlets at a cost of \$14.90 per thousand; such pamphlets to be available for purchase by commercial growers in quantities of 10,000 or multiples thereof, with an additional charge of \$5.00 for name change, the pamphlets to be shipped from Beaumont, TX direct to the purchaser at the expense of the purchaser; the 150,000 pamphlets purchased by the Society to be shipped to the Knoxville Office at the expense of the Becker Printing Company. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

Albert Buell reported that he had orders from commercial growers for approximately 270,000 of these culture pamphlets and that the printing should be done within the next month or two. Estelle Crane suggested that all orders for these culture pamphlets be reported to the So-

ciety Treasurer so that the Society would have a complete record of the transactions.

At the request of the Finance Chairman, Mr. Dixon, the budget for the coming year, as revised, was presented by Estelle Crane, who moved that this budget be approved. Motion seconded and carried.

Motion was made by Neva Anderson that culture pamphlets with a blank space for imprinting be made available to affiliates or individuals at a cost of \$2.50 per 100. Motion seconded and lost. Motion made by Ellie Bogin that the previous motion be reconsidered. Motion seconded and carried. Motion then made by Ruth Carey to amend the motion under consideration to read that the cost be \$2.00 per 100. Motion amended and carried. Motion made by Adeline Krogman to amend the amendment to read that the cost be \$2.00 per approximately 90 (due to postal rates). Motion seconded and carried. The amended motion reading as follows: Culture pamphlets with a blank space for imprinting be made available to affiliates or individuals at a cost of \$2.00 for approximately 90, was then seconded and carried.

Motion made by Ruth Carey that the show chairman will receive the Standard Show Award score sheet for evaluating the show and green and blue cards to be displayed if one or both of the rosettes are awarded.

If the SSA (green rosette) is not won, the judge appointed by the judges chairman will return both cards and the score sheet to the affiliate chairman.

If the SSA (green rosette) is awarded, when the affiliate chairman receives the score sheet, the rosette will be mailed to the affiliate show chairman.

If the affiliate is eligible to receive the Standard Show Achievement Award (SSAA - blue rosette) the show chairman will be informed and the SSAA (blue rosette) will be presented at the following AVSA convention.

This to be effective as of October 1, 1975.

Motion seconded and carried.

Special thanks were given to the host group for the splendid publicity given to commercials in local papers et cetera. Number of show attendees, it was felt, had been couples.

Miss Florence Garrity moved that The First National Bank of Boston (Boston, MA) be designated as depository for a checking account in the name of African Violet Society of America, Inc. Motion seconded and carried.

Miss Garrity moved that The Henderson National Bank, P. O. Box 107, Huntsville, AL, be designated as depository for a checking account in the name of African Violet Society of America, Inc. Atlanta Convention Account (1976). Motion seconded and carried.

Miss Garrity moved that The Suffolk Franklin Savings Bank (Boston, MA) be designated as the depository for a savings account in the name of the African Violet Society of America, Inc. Boyce Edens Research Fund. Motion seconded and carried.

Miss Garrity moved that The Suffolk Franklin Savings Bank (Boston, MA) be designated as the depository for a savings account in the name of the African Violet Society of America, Inc. Life Members Account. Motion seconded and carried.

Mr. Jimmy Watson gave a report of Commercial Sales and Exhibits. Copy of his report is attached.

Miss Garrity reported that general registration was approximately 368 involving about five hundred members.

Mr. Jimmy Watson made a motion that the convention rules be changed to eliminate door prizes effective with the St. Louis convention in 1977. Motion seconded and carried.

Since there was no other business the meeting adjourned at 3:42 PM.

s/ Lizeta Tenney Hamilton  
Secretary

Minutes approved by  
s/ Elisabeth Hansen  
s/ Adeline Krogman  
s/ Millie Blair

# Bylaws of the African Violet Society of America, Inc.

Organized November 8, 1946  
Incorporated June 30, 1947

Adopted At Regular Annual Meeting  
Philadelphia, Pa., May 13, 1950  
As Amended Milwaukee, Wis., April 18, 1970

## ARTICLE I

### Name and Object Section 1

**NAME:** This society shall be known as the African Violet Society of America.

### Section 2

**SEAL:** The corporate seal of the society shall be kept at the business office of the society.

### Section 3

**NON-PROFIT:** This society shall be and exist as a non-profit organization.

### Section 4

**OBJECT:** The object of the society shall be to afford a convenient and beneficial association of persons interested in the African violet (*Saintpaulia*); to stimulate a widespread interest in the propagation and culture of African violets; to promote ways and means for the distribution of all varieties and species among the members and others interested in growing them and to gather and publish reliable, practical information concerning this organization, the culture and propagation of the African violet, and other articles of interest to the members.

## ARTICLE II

### Membership and Dues Section 1

**ELIGIBILITY:** Any person interested in the growing of African violets shall be eligible to membership in this society.

### Section 2

**CLASSES:** There shall be six (6) classes of membership in the society, namely:

- a. **INDIVIDUAL:** which shall be any one person.
- b. **ASSOCIATE:** which shall be any person living at the same address as a person having any other class of membership. An associate member shall not receive the society magazine or notices of meetings and bylaws amendments carried therein but shall have all other privileges of an individual member by paying half the dues required for individual membership.
- c. **COMMERCIAL:** which shall be all persons or firms who advertise consistently and/or sell one thousand (1,000) or more African violet plants or leaf cuttings annually or who manufacture or advertise for sale, fertilizer, disease and insect control materials, equipment, tools or any other merchandise pertaining to or applicable to growing African violets.
- d. **SUSTAINING:** which shall be those individuals or organizations interested in the objects of this Society and paying the Sustaining Membership fee.
- e. **LIFE:** which shall exempt such members from annual dues upon payment of the life membership fee.
- f. **HONORARY LIFE:** which shall be persons given a life membership by the society for outstanding services. They shall have all of the privileges of membership but shall be exempt from future payment of dues.

### Section 3

**AWARD MEMBERSHIPS:** may be given by the Awards Committee with the approval of the executive committee provided not more than one (1) honorary life membership nor more than ten (10) yearly memberships may be awarded during any one (1) term.

### Section 4

**REVOKE:** The Board of Directors may revoke any membership for just cause provided that refund shall be made to life members in the amount paid by them minus the accumulative sum for individual membership to date of revocation.

### Section 5

**DUES:** The amount of dues for each membership shall be determined by vote of the Board of Directors provided that no increase shall exceed fifty percent (50%) of the amount paid in the current year, or be effective within twelve (12) months of any previous increase. Dues shall be payable in advance, to the treasurer of the society and shall cover the twelve (12) month period from the first day of March through the last day of February.

### Section 6

**MEMBERSHIP VOTE:** Each paid to date membership shall entitle the holder to voice and vote in the business meetings of the society.

## ARTICLE III

### Affiliations and Charters Section 1

**AFFILIATED CHAPTERS:** Any group of persons interested in African violets may form a chapter and affiliate with the society upon payment of the fee set for such affiliation and in return they shall receive copies of publications which may be sent to any member of their choice: the AVSA Collection Award, first and second place; AVSA Standard Show Award, and AVSA Standard Show Achievement Award and other awards as may be determined by the Board of Directors in the future, and library service if desired.

### Section 2

Groups of members and/or societies in one or more states or countries may affiliate as Councils, State Societies or Regional Group Societies upon payment of the fee set for such affiliation and shall be entitled to receive the AVSA Collection Award, first and second place, AVSA Standard Show Award, and AVSA Standard Show Achievement Award, library service, and the AVSA Sweepstakes Award.

### Section 3

**JUDGES COUNCILS:** Groups of judges from one or more states, districts, or areas may affiliate as Judges Councils upon payment of the fee set for such affiliation and in return they shall be entitled to the AVSA Collection Award, first and second place; AVSA Standard Show Award and AVSA Standard Show Achievement Award, library service, and the AVSA Sweepstakes Award.

#### Section 4

**CHARTERS:** shall be issued to all affiliated groups upon registering the name of the group with the Affiliate Chairman. A president's card is available to those groups who supply the name and address of the group president.

#### Section 5

**VOTING STATUS:** Affiliated groups as such shall have no voice or vote in the society business meetings and no member of a group may use the group's affiliation for individual membership privileges.

#### Section 6

**REVOKE:** The Board of Directors may revoke any charter for just cause, but no individual member shall lose membership because of the loss of the group charter.

### ARTICLE IV

#### Meetings and Quorum

##### Section 1

**ANNUAL MEETINGS:** shall be held at the convention which shall be held at such time and place each year as the Board of Directors shall determine.

##### Section 2

**SPECIAL MEETINGS:** may be called by the Board of Directors or the president and two (2) other elected officers.

##### Section 3

**QUORUM:** at any of the society meetings shall be fifty (50) individual members each of whom must be able to produce a paid to date membership card.

##### Section 4

**QUORUM:** at any meeting of the Board of Directors shall be ten (10) members of the Board.

### ARTICLE V

#### Officers and Their Duties

##### Section 1

**ELECTIVE OFFICERS:** The elected officers of this society shall be:

- a. **PRESIDENT:** who shall have general superintendency of the affairs of the society; preside at meetings of the society, Board of Directors, and executive committee; keep informed on all work of the society and make reports thereon as may be required; appoint committee chairmen; fill all vacancies in offices and committees during the term; countersign checks drawn on the treasury; be a member ex-officio of all committees except the nominating; and assume other duties necessary in the best interest of the society.
- b. **FIRST VICE PRESIDENT:** who shall preside at meetings in the absence of the president or when called upon; countersign checks when the president or treasurer cannot sign; and perform other duties as assigned.
- c. **SECOND VICE PRESIDENT:** who shall preside at meetings in the absence of the president and first vice president or when called upon; and perform other duties as assigned.
- d. **THIRD VICE PRESIDENT:** who shall preside at meetings in the absence of the president, first and second vice presidents or when called upon, and perform other duties as assigned.
- e. **SECRETARY:** who shall be responsible for keeping accurate records of the meetings of the society, Board of Directors, and executive committee; and assume other duties relative to the office or that may be assigned.

f. **TREASURER:** who shall be responsible for the safe keeping of the society funds and payment of bills by checks signed by two (2) of the three officers recognized by the banks to sign checks; keep an accurate book record of all monies received and disbursed; render financial reports as the Board of Directors may require; and help prepare the annual budget in detail. He shall be bonded in an amount set by the Board of Directors and shall submit all records related to the treasury for audit annually by a Certified Public Accountant selected by the executive committee. The cost of both audit and bond shall be included in the budget and be paid by the society. The Certified Public Accountant's report shall be sent to the members of the Board in advance of each annual meeting.

##### Section 2

**DIRECTORS:** There shall be fifteen (15) directors elected from the membership-at-large, one (1) of which shall be a resident of the Dominion of Canada. They shall be elected to serve terms of three (3) years each, five (5) being elected each year.

##### Section 3

**PARLIAMENTARIAN:** A parliamentarian may be appointed by the president to serve at the annual meeting, or for the entire term, remuneration to be decided by the Board of Directors.

### ARTICLE VI

#### Nominations and Elections

##### Section 1

**ELIGIBILITY:** To be eligible to hold office in this society a nominee must be a member in good standing and have served at least one (1) year as a member of the Board of Directors.

##### Section 2

**TERMS OF OFFICE:** The terms of officers shall be one (1) year or until their successors are elected and each term shall begin at the conclusion of the annual convention at which they are elected excepting that of the directors, which shall be governed by Section 2, of Article V. No elected officer shall serve more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same office excepting the treasurer whose terms may be unlimited and the directors who shall not succeed themselves.

##### Section 3

**NOMINATIONS:** shall be offered as follows:

- a. By a nominating committee.
- b. From the floor, the nominees being present.

##### Section 4

**ELECTIONS:** shall be by ballot excepting when there is only one (1) name in nomination for an office, in which case the secretary may cast the ballot or it may be dispensed with in favor of viva voce voting.

### ARTICLE VII

#### Administration and Management

##### Section 1

The Board of Directors shall consist of elected officers, the fifteen (15) directors, the immediate past president, and the chairmen of standing committees. This Board shall:

- a. Manage the society affairs between annual meetings.
- b. Have the same officers as those elected by the society.

- c. Meet regularly immediately before and after the annual convention of the society. Special meetings may be called by the president or upon request of the executive committee.
- d. Set the policies of the society and make their own standing rules provided they do not conflict with the bylaws of the society.
- e. Appoint an editor of publications, who shall be responsible for the preparation and issuance of all publications authorized by the Board of Directors.
- f. Submit the minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors for publication in one of the first two African Violet Magazine issues following the convention.

Section 2

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: shall consist of the elected officers and they shall have the authority to conduct any necessary business of the society during the interim between meetings of the Board of Directors.

Section 3

EXECUTIVE PERSONNEL: An executive director may be selected and appointed by such procedure as deemed advisable by the Board of Directors. The salary of such person and any additional employees necessary for the management of the society shall be set by the Board of Directors who shall also have the power to remove any salaried employee. The authority to employ and the power to remove subordinate personnel may be delegated by the Board of Directors to the executive committee or executive director.

Section 4

INDEBTEDNESS: The officers, executive committee, Board of Directors, or anyone delegated by them shall not incur any debt or liability in the name of the society beyond the available or maturing funds in the treasury, excluding any monies or securities held for specific purposes.

Section 5

INVESTMENTS: All monies received for life membership dues shall be invested by the treasurer as directed by the Board of Directors. The interest in part accruing therefrom shall be used to provide for subscriptions each year at the rate of one-half the regular subscription price, for each Life member and for each Honorary Life member.

Section 6

BONDS: All society officers, committee chairmen, members and employees handling society funds, shall be bonded in a blanket bond, the cost of same to be paid by the society.

ARTICLE VIII

Committees  
Section 1

STANDING COMMITTEES: shall not exceed fifteen (15) in number including Affiliate, Awards, Boyce Edens Research Fund, Commercial Activities, Commercial Sales and Exhibits, Convention Program, Convention Time and Place, Finance, Library, Membership and Promotion,

Nominating, Plant Registration, Publications, Research, Shows and Judges. These committees shall perform duties as specified in the bylaws, standing rules, and as ordered by the Board of Directors.

- a. THE FINANCE COMMITTEE: shall prepare a budget in detail for guidance during the ensuing year. A sum shall be included in the budget to cover reasonable traveling expenses of officers and committee chairmen while engaged in travel on essential business of the society when authorized by the President. To be effective the budget must be approved by the Board of Directors.
- b. BOYCE EDENS RESEARCH FUND COMMITTEE: shall collect the Boyce Edens Research Fund contributions and remit same to the treasurer, who shall maintain this fund in a separate account to be used for research funds.
- c. THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE: shall consist of five (5) members who shall be appointed by the president with the approval of the Board of Directors. Three (3) members of this committee shall serve terms of three (3) years each, one (1) being appointed each year and the remaining two (2) shall be past presidents of the society who may serve an unlimited number of years but the appointment of which shall be annually. This committee shall select one (1) nominee (from a list of those having served at least one (1) year on the Board of Directors) for each office to be filled; and the names selected shall be submitted to the president (after confirming that they will serve if elected) in ample time to notify the membership by mail or through the magazine at least thirty (30) days in advance of the annual convention date.

Section 2

SPECIAL COMMITTEES: may be appointed by the president during the term, with the approval of the executive committee, which may be obtained by mail.

ARTICLE IX

Parliamentary Authority  
Section 1

ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER REVISED: shall be the parliamentary authority on all questions not covered in these bylaws.

ARTICLE X

Section 1

AMEND: These bylaws may be amended at any meeting of this society provided: the amendments have been sent to each member of the society except associate members at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting date; and they have been approved by at least a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 2

REVISED: These bylaws may be revised in the same manner as amended excepting that a revision must be ordered by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors or by the assembly at a regular convention meeting of the society.

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- RED FLAIR**—Brilliant red double, excellent symmetry. Tailored foliage. A true show plant. **No. 221**
- DOODLE PINK**—(New from Lyon) Plenty of bright double pink flowers with yellow stamens. Small, dark green girl foliage. (Miniature) **No. 303**
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- VIOLET TRAIL**—Exciting trailer breakthrough. Large violet blue stars, a must for any collection. **No. 207**
- COCO**—Double white miniature with distinct blue eye, tiny tailored foliage, a real bloomer. **No. 257**
- TINY SPARKLES**—(New from Lyon) Burgundy colored, full double flowers tipped with white dots. Lush dark green foliage. (Miniature) **No. 300**
- TINY BLUE**—At last a darling profuse blooming miniature double light blue with tiny glossy dark green leaves **No. 205**
- HIGH STEPPER**—Miniature. Semi-double, bright pink. Leaves are sparkling, blackish green. **No. 255**
- PIXIE TRAIL**—Little violet shaped, pink flowers, with deeper centers. Semi-miniature leaved, trailing plant. **No. 283**

**MORE VALUES! Now only \$1.79 ea.**

- EVERYTHING**—(New from Tonkadale) A unique "twilight" blue. . . not quite dark blue, with light green foliage. **No. 299**
- PINKS A POPPIN**—(New from Granger) Rosy pink double, with girl type foliage. **No. 307**
- DARCIE**—Large fuchsia red, white edged, full double flowers. **No. 256**
- SNOOPY**—(New from Lyon) Blue and white double; white with blue center. Dainty foliage. (Miniature) **No. 304**
- WINTRY WINE**—(New from Park) Semi-double, plum purple star, with large, dark shiny green foliage. **No. 295**
- TUCSON TRAIL**—(New from Lyon) Fine, semi-miniature, glossy leaved trailer, with full, double pink flowers. **No. 318**
- EVERMORE**—(New from Park) Large double purple with medium sized foliage. **No. 325**

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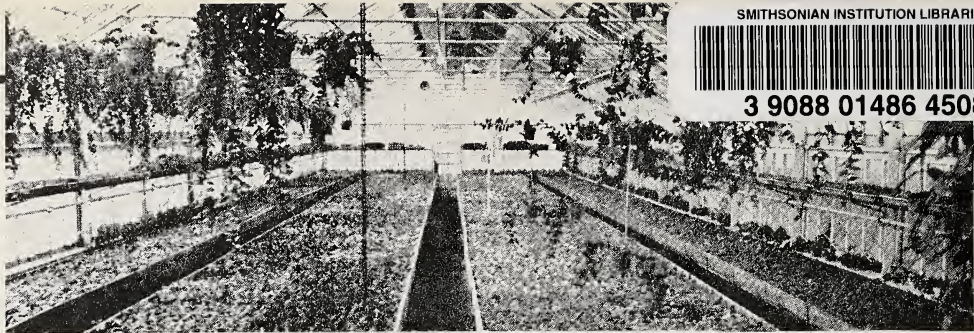
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